

PREFACE TO VOL. XX

Following is a synopsis of the documents contained in the present volume:

XLI. The *Relation* of 1640 is the joint product of Le Jeune, who wrote at Quebec (under date of September 10) the portion dealing with the field of the lower St. Lawrence, and of Jerome Lalemant, who wrote from the Huron country (under date of May 27) of the year's work in that far-away mission. In Vol. XVIII., we gave the first ten chapters of Le Jeune's narrative (Part I. of the document); in Vol. XIX. this part was concluded, and eight chapters were published of Lalemant's report (Part II.). We herewith give Chapters ix. and x., thus closing the document.

In Chapter ix., Lalemant describes the founding of the mission of St. Jean Baptiste. At first, the Fathers are welcomed; but soon their troubles begin,—the demons prompt the natives to perform all their customary superstitious rites more freely than ever, and to drive out the strangers. A friendly chief calls a council at which the missionaries may refute the slanders spread about them; fortunately, Joseph Chihwatenhwa arrives in time to speak at this conclave, and his eloquence appeases the tumult for a season. As usual, most of their converts are among the dying; of these, is an Algonkin whose tribe are wintering with the Hurons.