

[3] Relation of what occurred in the Mission of the Fathers of the Society of JESUS in the Huron country, in New France, in the years 1647 and 1648.

*Sent to Reverend Father Estienne Charlet, Provincial of the Society of JESUS in the Province of France. By Father PAUL RAGUENEAU of the same Society, Superior of the Huron Mission.*

MY REVEREND FATHER,

If our letters be fortunate enough to reach France, and if they who bear them [4] can avoid meeting the Hiroquois, who are robbers more cruel than all the Pirates of the sea, I trust that Your Reverence will find consolation in reading this Relation; for you will see by it how God continues to protect us amid the misfortunes that surround us on all sides, and how this Church, springing up in this land of barbarism, is increasing in numbers and in godliness, more than we had ever dared to hope. If it please God to shower the blessings of Heaven on these peoples in the same proportion as misfortunes assail us, we pray him with all our hearts that he will continue so to afflict us, inasmuch as it must suffice us that he derive from it his glory and the salvation of souls,—the only treasure, the hope whereof brings us to these countries. To that end we request the assistance of your Holy Sacrifices and prayers.

My Reverend Father,

*From the Hurons, this 16th of April, 1648.* Your very humble and very obedient servant in Our Lord,

PAUL RAGUENEAU.