

## PREFACE TO VOL. L

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

CXVII. In Vol. XLIX. were presented the first five chapters of Le Mercier's *Relation* of 1664-65; the remainder of the document is given in this volume. An account of Nouvel's second journey to Lake Manikouagan is compiled from the diary kept by him. It is an undertaking of great fatigue, hardships, and danger; and Nouvel and his French companions barely escape with their lives, their canoe being capsized in the rapids. The Father finds that most of his disciples have left the lake, thinking that he would not come to them; but he ministers to the few who remain there, and to some others whom he meets upon the way.

Le Mercier recounts the victory and subsequent defeat of an Iroquois band who make a raid upon the savages dwelling near Lake St. John. He also relates several miraculous incidents which have occurred among the French people,—one, a sudden cure of blindness; another, the household cares of a pious woman relieved, presumably, by the aid of the Virgin Mary.

A letter is here inserted, which describes the captivity and torments of some Frenchmen seized near Montreal by the Iroquois, in August, 1662. Some of them finally escape (1664), making their way to the