

PREFACE TO VOL. LIX

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

CXXXIII. The greater part of the *Relation* of 1673-74 appeared in Vol. LVIII.; the remainder is herewith presented. This comprises only the report on the two Montagnais missions, at Tadoussac and the Seven Islands. The former of these is given in Crépieu's journal of his winter spent with the savages (October 4, 1673, to May 24, 1674) at Lake St. John. Departing from Quebec, he spends a week at the Jeremie islets, with a small band of Papinachois encamped there. At Chicoutimi, he finds two hundred Indians awaiting him, to whom he ministers during ten days. On November 2, he departs with one of their bands, to accompany them in their winter wanderings. During the entire cold season, they rove about the neighborhood of Lake St. John, wherever a prospect of food attracts them; and their wretched existence is shared by the brave missionary, who, with undaunted zeal and devotion, instructs them and celebrates the rites of the Church, whenever time or place permits these pious services. About the middle of January, he is so fortunate as to obtain news of Father Albanel, whom he visits, finding the latter temporarily disabled by an accident. In February, the savages in the Lake St. John region are overcome with terror by an Iroquois raid. They