

1685.

At the beginning of this year was finished the palisade which they were making about the village,—always acting as people who do not fear to die, being assured that the iroquois, their former relatives, bear ill will against them only because they are christians. Those iroquois had renounced them at the council of war that was held at la famine, which is a place beyond Catarakwi. They had declaimed against them, had jeered at them, and finally uttered various threats against them, which eventually ended only in causing them to lose their places in the council, because they left it in order to come to finish the palisade. This was a second indication of their good faith, for the benefit which they were rendering to the french was great. They went incessantly to scout in the woods, where the iroquois were likely to pass in order to make a descent upon us; and this greatly vexes the iroquois. The palisade, which is pentagonal, then had five bastions, in one of which was a great iron cannon for eight-pound balls. This task is not small, as the village has become very large during these past few years. After they had¹⁶ . . .

[*The rest of the MS. is missing.*]

[Endorsed: +]

“Narrative, Until 1685, of what occurred in the mission of the Sault, from its foundation until 1686 (By Father Claude Chauchetière, S.J.); first book. (Copied after Father Chauchetière's autograph, 1881.)”]