

Sieur de Boisguillot faithfully performs the duty confided to him during the absence of those who are entrusted with your commissions. He writes us what Sieur Péré tells him about the dispositions of the Northern Savages, and I wrote it elsewhere. I do not wish to trouble you with a pile of letters that I have received or am writing, and whereof I am sending the originals or copies to the Reverend Father Superior. He will extract therefrom what is to be communicated to you, pending the moment when I shall do myself the honor of adding to the particulars that I shall give of the news we expect daily; they will supply what is needed to show you that, with all possible esteem and attachment, I remain, Monseigneur,

Your most humble and most obedient servant,

J. ENJALRAN, of the Society of Jesus.

The Hurons have not yet returned from below nor from the exploring expedition.

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1683: JESUIT MISSIONS IN THE NORTHWEST.

[Father Thierry Beschefer's report to his provincial, for the year 1683.]

[Synopsis: He enumerates the tribes of the Ottawa missions, and the stations which the Jesuits have established among them. The pious dispositions and customs of the Christian Indians at Sault Ste. Marie and Mackinac are described at some length. Superstitious and idolatrous rites are seldom openly practiced among them. A solar eclipse is, as usual, advantageously employed by the Fathers to combat the native superstitions. Nouvel has made various missionary journeys along the shores of Lake Huron, and has found the savages of that region very friendly, and well inclined to the faith. Drunkenness had almost destroyed them; but the Father's preaching has aroused them to strive against this vice. Albanel and André have done good work among the Wisconsin tribes, as also did Allouez before them; the latter is now evangelizing the Illinois and Miami savages, and has been able to abolish most of their superstitious fasts. Famine among them has caused him great