

**THE JESUIT RELATIONS AND ALLIED
DOCUMENTS: TRAVELS AND
EXPLORATIONS OF THE JESUIT
MISSIONARIES IN NEW FRANCE,
1610-1791. VOL. XLII. [CLEVELAND]**

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REUBEN GOLD THWAITES

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The Jesuit Relations and Allied Documents

TRAVELS AND EXPLORATIONS
OF THE JESUIT MISSIONARIES
IN NEW FRANCE

1610-1791

THE ORIGINAL FRENCH, LATIN, AND ITALIAN TEXTS, WITH ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS AND NOTES; ILLUSTRATED BY PORTRAITS, MAPS, AND FACSIMILES

EDITED BY

REUBEN GOLD THWAITES

Secretary of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin

Vol. XLII

LOWER CANADA, IROQUOIS: 1632-1657

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PREFACE TO VOL. XLII

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

XC. The *Relation* of 1653-56 is written by Jean de Quen, in the absence of his superior (Le Mercier) at the Onondaga mission recently begun by the Jesuits. This enterprise constitutes the main subject-matter of the *Relation*, and is fully described in the journal of Father Dablon, who, with Chaumonot, began the mission in the preceding autumn (1655). A prefatory note by De Quen outlines the chief events of the year, which are later given in detail.

The spring of 1656 opens most auspiciously for commerce; "for twenty years past, vessels have not reached this country so early,—at the very beginning of the month of June,—or in greater number." An appeal is made for six more missionaries, in view of the new fields of labor which are now opening.

The *Relation* proper begins with an account of Le Moyne's second voyage to the Mohawk country (August to November, 1655). He is welcomed by that tribe; and councils are held, with profusion of speeches and presents. The Father then visits the Dutch settlement at Fort Orange. After returning thence, his life is threatened by a pretended madman, who is only appeased by the offer of a dog for sacrifice. In November, he returns to Montreal, experiencing great hardships on the journey thither.