

CHAPTER II.

CAPTIVITY OF FATHER ISAAC JOGUES AMONG THE MOHAWKS.

FATHER Isaac Jogues, the writer of the following narrative, was born at Orleans, in France, in 1607, and, embracing the rule of St. Ignatius, became a member of the Society of Jesus, in 1624. Although a poet and scholar, he sought a foreign mission, and was sent to Canada soon after his ordination in 1636. After a short stay at Miscon, he proceeded to the country of the Wendats or Hurons, in Upper Canada, and remained there amid every privation till 1642, when he was sent to Quebec by his Superior for necessaries of various kinds. On his return voyage, he was taken prisoner, and he thus relates his sufferings in a letter written from Rensselaerwick, now Albany, to the Provincial in France. The letter, which is in a pure and classic Latin, was first published by *Alegambe*, in his *Mortes Illustres*, and subsequently by *Tanner*, in his *Societas Militans*, both rare works. A sworn copy of the original letter is preserved at Montreal in manuscript.

NARRATIVE.

REVEREND FATHER IN CHRIST—THE PEACE OF CHRIST.—Wishing, as I do, to write to your reverence, I hesitate first in which language to address you, for, after such long disuse, almost equally forgetful of both, I find equal difficulty in each. Two reasons, however,