

at Paris by Sebastien Cramoisey, and which served in their time to thrill the hearts of Frenchmen with tales of Jesuit heroism in the wilds of America.

This "Cramoisey" series, commencing with the *Rélation* of Le Jeune in 1632, contains forty-one volumes in all, thirty-nine of which bear the title "*Rélations*", while two—those of 1654-5 and 1658-9—are entitled "*Lettres*." With the appearance of the forty-first volume in 1672 the series abruptly ended, never to be resumed. This sudden termination, we are told by one whose study of the matter ought to have enabled him to speak with authority,\* was "probably due to the influence of Frontenac." True enough, the fact that Frontenac had just arrived in the colony, coupled with the fact that he has come to us as a most uncompromising foe of the Jesuits, might seem to give ground for this probability. But there are several difficulties in the way. One of these is the fact that although the despatches of Frontenac to the home authorities have been preserved,† no one has been able to find even a suggestion that the writings of the Jesuits should be censored. Moreover, Bishop Laval, the chief prop of Jesuit power in New France, was at this very time in France receiving distinct marks of the royal favour. And it must likewise be borne in mind that Frontenac's influence at the French court was obtained and retained largely through his wife, and that it could scarcely have been sufficient to secure any such drastic action against a powerful religious order.

With perhaps better reason the historian Faillon declares that the suppression was due to the influence of Governor Courcelle, Frontenac's predecessor in office.‡ Faillon cites in support of his statement a *Mémoire* prepared by M. D'Allet, the secretary of M. Queylus, who shortly before this had held the position of Vicar-General, with headquarters at Montreal. But Queylus was an open enemy of the Jesuits, and the attitude of the master may have influenced the secretary to regard the

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\*Mr. Reuben Gold Thwaites, "The Jesuit Relations and Allied Documents," Vol. I, Introduction, p. 4.

†Canadian Archives, *Correspondance Générale*, Vols. III and IV.

‡Faillon, *Histoire de la Colonie française*, 1 p. 290-291.