

Dupuis and his French colonists. Soon the Cayugas asked for a missionary, and Ménard, with two Frenchmen, was sent to their capital. Father Chaumonot accompanied them to that place and went still farther westward to the Senecas, to found another mission.

Among the Cayugas Ménard was in constant danger. In 1657 he wrote to his superior: "We walk with our heads uplifted in the midst of dangers, through insults, hootings and calumnies. Brandishing hatchets and knives, the savages often run after us to put us to death. Almost daily we are on the point of being massacred." He added that it was a common thing for him to see men burned and devoured by the Cayugas. But he labored on, undaunted and hopeful. From the scene of danger he wrote to encourage his superior, informing him that he alone, since the last year, had baptized more than 400 of the captives who were held at the Cayuga village.

Late in 1657 came the discovery of the Iroquois plot to murder the French missionaries and colonists. The story of the Frenchmen's wonderful escape at night, in boats that had been secretly made for the purpose, need not be re-told here. Suffice to say that Ménard was among the party which early in the spring of 1658 reached Montreal in safety. He became superior of the Jesuit residence at Three Rivers.

#### THE AGED PRIEST SENT TO LAKE SUPERIOR.

Suddenly and unexpectedly a momentous summons reached him. On the 19th of August, 1660, there arrived at Montreal an Ottawa flotilla of sixty canoes, which bore, besides their Indian owners, two Frenchmen named Pierre-Esprit Radisson and Médard Chouart des Groseilliers, who, on a voyage which had lasted a year [4], had explored the

[4] Radisson asserts in his "Voyages" that during this same journey he and Chouart went to Hudson Bay. This claim can hardly be credited. For critical accounts of the careers of these two pioneer explorers, see "American Historical Review" for January, 1896; Proceedings of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin for 1895, and Parkman Club Publication No. 2.