

Ottawa, and through the vast forests of the Huron district. Soon from all quarters of the continent flocked the savage tribes, to listen breathlessly to the inspired words that told of the promise of salvation and eternal glory, or to hear again and again the history of the Passion and Death of Christ preached by the ever zealous "Black Robe."

Through the neglect of the French Government, New France was captured in 1628 by the English under Kirk, and now all the hopes of the missionaries seemed lost at least for a time. But prospects looked brighter in 1632 when the country was ceded to France. In 1633 no less than twenty priests were attending to the spiritual wants of the colonists and converted Indians. The first *parish* church was built about this time near Chateau St. Louis: it was named *Notre Dame de la Recouvrance*.

In 1639 the first convent was founded in the present city of Quebec, and the Ursulines were soon engaged in the charitable work of educating the French and Indian children. In the same year the *Hôtel Dieu* Hospital was built. In 1644 the Sulpician Fathers secured the land known as the island of Montreal, and within five years had brought over fully five hundred immigrants.

But now a fierce enemy assailed the French and in assailing them hindered materially the progress of the church. Champlain incurred the enmity of the Iroquois and aroused their hatred against the French and everything pertaining to French rule. The missionaries scattered throughout the land were assaulted and slaughtered by this blood-thirsty tribe, whenever an occasion offered. Among the many that suffered martyrdom at this time, and who suffered it with all the atrocities that Indian hatred and resentment could invent, were the Jesuit Fathers; Jogues in 1647, Daniel in 1648, and Breboeuf and Lalemant in 1649. The sufferings of the two latter are probably without a parallel in the history of the world. Both were tied to stakes, strips of flesh cut slowly from their limbs, heated irons applied to their bodies, and their lips torn apart in the vain hope of drawing a groan from the sufferers. Breboeuf's feet were hacked off, his chest clove in and his

heart ripped out and devoured before the eyes of his companion. Lalemant was kept in continual suffering until the next morning when a blow from a tomahawk ended his pains. Yet, indeed, not in vain did the blood of these men flow so copiously on Canadian soil.

In Montreal in 1642 another Hotel Dieu was erected and placed in charge of the nuns of the order known as "*la Congregation de Notre Dame de Montreal*."

Up to this time no acknowledged head of church affairs had been appointed, and to fill this position a priest named Queylus was sent out to take charge of affairs. This father was the founder of the Montreal Seminary. Queylus disagreed with the other priests and became very unpopular, and now more than ever was felt the want of a head. France therefore in 1658, appointed François Laval as Vicar Apostolic of New France. But it was not until 1672 that Laval was appointed Bishop of Quebec.

Laval's fierce denunciation of the liquor traffic—that abominable curse of mankind—made his career in Canada a stormy one. He and his clergy vigorously opposed governor d'Argenson, to such an extent that the governor was recalled to France. But the same policy was followed by succeeding governors, until the Bishop in despair was forced to appeal to the home government for redress.

In answer to this appeal the colony was declared a Royal Government. The first Governor (De Masey) of the new *regime* was averse to Laval, but his successors proved more friendly, yet many difficulties had still to be removed, before the work of the church could advance smoothly. However notwithstanding this, progress marked the general state of the church at every stage. Most encouraging reports came in daily from the far away Indian missionaries, who as yet did not despair of even converting the fierce Iroquois.

Education of which little has been said, deserves at least passing attention, as it is closely connected with the advancement of the church. As early as 1637 the Jesuits founded a college at Quebec. Thirty years later, the students of this institution numbered one hundred and twenty, one half of whom were resident.