

energy. Their bands of braves "ranged the illimitable forests" with no power to control them, and no rivals whom they dreaded. They traversed the St. Lawrence and Lakes Erie and Ontario, and they struck their enemy upon the shores of Lake Champlain.

Every missionary on his way to his distant station was in constant danger of captivity and death; and yet never were those stations left unfilled for want of brave and devoted men to dare all the terrors of the route, and the chances of enduring the torture at the villages of the Mohawks. The path to the Huron missions was, perhaps, more completely beset than any other, for the Iroquois had succeeded in cutting off, or at least in interrupting the communication between Upper and Lower Canada. They had possession of the immediate passes.

In Quebec, in that year, the Feast of St. Ignatius, the founder of the Society of Jesus, was celebrated with no ordinary splendor. The Fathers on that joyous occasion offered up with full hearts the glorious crown of souls gathered from the wilderness—gathered up to the "greater honor of God" by the