

Letter by Father Jacques Gravier in the form of
a Journal of the Mission of l'Immaculée
Conception de Notre Dame in
the Illinois country.

February 15, 1694.

MY REVEREND FATHER,
I have much pleasure in giving you information respecting the condition of this mission of the *Illinois*, in order that you may be able to see, by this sort of journal that I send you, all that has occurred in it since the month of March of the previous year; and how great a blessing we might expect in this mission, were fervent laborers sent hither. After having been among the *Oumiamis* during the winter, on the ice, I found the *Illinois*—who had, some months before, left the places we call *Kiskaskia* and *Kouir akouintauka*. They had met every day during my absence to pray to God in the Chapel, night and morning, as regularly as if I had been present,—after which an old man, who had for a long time been infirm, went through all the streets of the Village calling out that the women and children also were to go to adore God, and to say their prayers to him, . . . and when they informed me that several children had died, without my having had the consolation of having baptized them before my departure.

About the end of the Same Month of April, I