

are furnished by the liberality of the Canadian intendant, Hocquart. In acknowledgment thereof the missionary binds himself and his successors to say mass for this benefactor, once a year, "so long as the church shall exist." In the following year, Hocquart also gives a sum of money for this church; and his successor, Bigot, does the same in 1749. The building is finally completed in 1750, and is valued at 3,000 livres.

CCXX. Louis Vivier, for some time a missionary in Illinois, writes (June 8, 1750) to a friend, giving some account of that country. Game is still abundant everywhere, except in the vicinity of the settlements. There are five French villages, and three of Indians, in the plain between the Mississippi and Kaskaskia rivers. Vivier estimates the white population at eleven hundred persons, who hold both black and red slaves — three hundred of the former and sixty of the latter. "The three Illinois Villages do not contain more than eight hundred Savages, of all ages." The French people generally devote themselves to agriculture, and to raising cattle and other animals; accordingly, they live in great comfort; and they send large quantities of flour to New Orleans. Vivier praises the gentleness and intelligence of the Illinois savages; and finds in them "many qualities that are lacking in civilized peoples. . . . They all live in great peace, which is due, in a great measure, to the fact that each one is allowed to do what he pleases. . . . As a rule, the Illinois are very lazy, and greatly addicted to brandy; this is the cause of the insignificant results that we obtain among them." The Jesuits now have a mission in but one of the three