

according to Charlevoix, who visited it in 1721, had, since the burial of Marquette, "receded little by little from the grave, as if respecting the burial-place." The following year, one of the two *voyageurs* who had accompanied him, and assisted in performing the last duties to this enterprising and devoted son of the Church, returned to the place where he had been interred, and carried his remains to Mackina. The Indians, after his death, gave to the stream on which he was buried the name of "Riviere de la Robe Noire;" the French, that of "P. Marquette;" and these *voyageurs* of the inland sea of Michigan, for years, did not fail to invoke the spirit of the sainted man, as their frail barks braved the tempest of the lake, on their annual voyages to Mackina; and the Algonquin, as he coasted its borders or hunted along its banks, cast his votive offering on the resting-place of one whose amenity of manners, goodness of heart and kindness of feeling, had endeared him to every tribe from the mouth of the Huron to Sault St. Marie—from Chicago to Michilimackina. Yet at this time not a cross marks the place of his death, not a stone shows that of his grave; and the traveler, as he is carried by the genius of Fulton, with all the appliances of comfort and luxury, through the waters of Michigan, may inquire in vain where he died or where he was buried.

In the prairies to the west of the southern part of Lake Michigan, between the country occupied by the Foxes and the Illinois river, dwelt a tribe in the latter part of the seventeenth century, of whom, so far as we know, not a vestige now remains. They were known on the old maps as the "Mascoutins, or Nation de Feu." Charlevoix states that the true name was "Mascoutenec," signifying an "open country." The Pottawottamies pronouncing it "Mascouten," from them the French had taken the name; and as the word in the Pottawattomic language, or a word similar to it, was translated "fire," the name of "Nation de Feu" was given to them. The Kickapoos were their neighbors, and in inter-