

and untimely death of the Sieur La Salle had not mitigated. His works, therefore, must be taken with some grains of allowance; though, in the main, furnishing some important particulars in reference to the early discoveries in the North-West. He accompanied La Salle on his expedition to the Illinois, and gives a very lively but very romantic picture of this "nouvel pays." In the midst of much chaff, there are some grains of wheat to be gathered in the works of the reverend father; and after nearly two centuries, we must be thankful even for the few details which in the "Relations," the works of Marquette, Allouez, Hennepin, Tonti, La Fontaine, and Charlevoix, have come down to us. That in the archives of the French Government, in those of the Superior of the Jesuits, in the records in Quebec, much interesting matter might be found connected with this subject, is beyond a doubt. The historian of the North-West will have a task in collecting the materials; the collating of them when gathered, would be a work of but little labor. Two centuries have elapsed since the Jesuit Fathers launched their bark canoes on the waters of the Illinois. Where now are the rude temples which these pious men dedicated in the wilderness to the service of the ever-living God? Where the fathers themselves? Where the memorials of their worship? Where their neophytes? Where the Red Men of the forest who lingered around the symbols of the Christian's faith, and

* The newspapers state, that in digging a cellar for a house lately, at Green Bay, where the first Catholic Church was erected by the Jesuits, a silver plate—evidently a part of the communion service—was found, with an inscription in French, dated 1681.

J. L.

It should be added here, that the preceding note by Judge Law, is probably not literally correct. The location of the mission, St. François Xavier, was not at Green Bay, but five miles above, on Fox river, at the Rapide des Peres, now the thriving village of Depere. In Shea's *History of the Catholic Missions*, on page 372, is the following note, on authority of McCabe, who collected materials for a Gazetteer of Wisconsin, of which before his death, he only published a few newspaper sketches: "In digging the foundation of a house on the site of this church, a few years since, a splendid silver ostensorium was found, with this inscription: '† Ce Sotiel a ete donne par M. Nicolas Perrot a la mission de St. François Xavier, en la Baye des Puants. † 1686.'" L. C. D.