

MOST REV. DEAR SIR:—The name of the venerable M. Noiseux has always been highly respected in the Diocese of Quebec, although the same cannot be said of the manuscript work he has left, and which contains numerous inaccuracies and errors. The reverend gentleman was in the habit of consecrating his leisure hours to the collection of historical documents from which he made extracts. But he wanted critical acumen, and he was not sufficiently versed in deciphering the writing of the ancient missionaries, which were frequently illegible to the uninitiated. Hence, many and egregious errors and contradictions are to be found in his "*Liste Chronologique*," etc.

So conscious of these defects in his work was M. Noiseux, that during his life he never would consent to communicate it but to two or three intimate friends in the clergy. At his death, he left it in the hands of the late Archbishop Signay, with the strictest injunctions of never allowing a copy of it to be made, at least till it had been carefully corrected. By some means, however, a couple of copies found their way out of the archives, and one has even gone as far as St. Louis, if I am well informed. Its character being there unknown has caused several historical heresies amongst those who give it an authority it was far from possessing in the estimation of the compiler himself.

Drocoux is not to be found; the *Relations* and the *Journal des Jésuites*, which contain the names of the missionaries arriving at Quebec, do not mention this name, neither is it to be found in the register of N. D. de Quebec, begun in 1621, nor of Three Rivers, commenced in 1634. I rather suspect the name of Allouez may, by a bad reader, have been translated as Drocoux. Father Allouez, who had been at Three Rivers, was one of the first missionaries who penetrated into the far West. As for the name of Deguerre, or Dequerre, it is most probably made to represent the name of Father De-