

issippi, is susceptible of proof; and that the Mississippi had been known, and the tribes inhabiting it visited, and the missions established, before Marquette even coasted its borders, is now well understood. As early as the year 1652, twenty years before Marquette and Joliet started on their voyage of discovery to the "great river Mechasippi," Father Jean Dequerre, Jesuit, went from the mission on the Superior to the Illinois, and established a flourishing mission, probably the mission of "St. Louis," where Peoria is now situated. He visited various Indian nations on the borders of the Mississippi, and was slain in the midst of his apostolic labors, in 1661.

In 1657, Father Jean Charles Drocoux, Jesuit, went to Illinois, and returned to Quebec the same year.

In 1670, Father Hugues Pinet, Jesuit, went to the Illinois and established a mission among the Tamarois, or Cahokias, at or near the present site of the village of Cahokia, on the borders of the Mississippi. He remained there until the year 1685, and was at that mission when Marquette and Joliet went down the Mississippi. In the same year M. Bergier, priest of the Seminary of Quebec, succeeded him in the mission to the Tamarois or Cahokias; and Father Pinet returned to the mission of St. Louis, (Peoria,) where he remained until he died, the 15th of July, 1704, at the age of seventy-nine.

In 1663, Father Claude Jean Allouez was appointed Vicar-General of the North and West, including Illinois. He preached to the Pottawottamies and Miamis about Green Bay; in 1665 he returned to Quebec, and went to the Illinois in 1668, and visited the missions on the Mississippi.

In 1670, "M. Augustine Meulan de Circe," priest of the Seminary of Quebec, went to Illinois. He left the mission there in 1675, returned to France, was sent missionary to Siam, made Bishop in 1708, nominated Vicar-Apostolical of China, and in 1713 was in Japan. Thus it will be seen, that for *twenty years*, to wit, from 1653 to 1673, anterior to the