

many times that he had only complete sets and could not furnish single numbers.

These articles of mine have greatly troubled certain persons, as appears by the meeting at Missilimakinak (Mackinaw) regarding the discovery more or less reliable of the remains of Father Marquette.

What I said concerning the Cavalier de la Salle's priority in discovering the Ohio and Mississippi, has been the occasion of great and even acrimonious controversies. I care nothing for attacks from which search after truth is excluded, and which are little else than passion. It is enough for me to state, that in the American edition of my volumes, which you have, I was not allowed to put any notes of introduction, but that the map inserted in the French edition confirms what I have advanced respecting the discovery of the Ohio, and that I still very firmly believe that La Salle discovered the Mississippi by way of the lakes—by Chicago, and by the Illinois River, as far south as the 36th parallel, and all this before 1673 (the date of Marquette's discovery).

This opinion of mine I base, first on the narrative made by La Salle to the Abbé Renaudot.

This narrative describes an expedition in which La Salle was engaged southwest of Lake Ontario, for a distance of four hundred leagues, and down a river that must have been the Ohio. This was in 1669.

The narrative proceeds: Some time thereafter he made a second expedition on the same river, which he quitted below Lake Erie—made a portage of six or seven leagues to embark on that lake, traversed it towards the north, ascended the river out of which it flows, passed the lake of Dirty Water [St. Clair?], entered the Freshwater Sea [Mer Douce], doubled the point of land that cuts this sea in two [Lakes Huron and Michigan], and descending from north to south, leaving on the west the Bay of the Puans [Green Bay], discovered a bay infinitely larger, at the bottom of which towards the west, he found a very beautiful harbor,¹ and

¹ Chicago. Is there earlier mention or description of that site? J. D. B.