

23d of July. Had Nicolet returned from Wisconsin with them? I calculate that the trip from Quebec to Wisconsin must have taken ten weeks each way, leaving thirty weeks of the year—from July, 1634, to July, 1635—for the transactions connected with the object of his voyage, which is plenty. Consequently, he had time to start in July, 1634, and return in July, 1635.

From that moment, or rather from the 9th of December, 1635, we find Nicolet residing at Three Rivers as interpreter—and so continued till the year of his death, 1642.

Jean Nicolet, it will be seen, arrived in the colony in 1618, and immediately went to reside on the Ottawa River and Lake Nipissing. The *Relations des Jésuites* say that he remained there until the country was restored to France by the English, in 1632. The first time we find Nicolet below Montreal is in July, 1634, when Father Brébeuf states that he traveled up with him to Allumettes Island, on the Ottawa. The party with which Brébeuf was, passed Three Rivers, half-way between Quebec and Montreal, on the 4th of July, 1634. From Allumettes Island, where Nicolet had landed, Brébeuf traveled to the Huron missions, on the shore of the Georgian Bay. These facts are taken from the *Relations*.

Now comes my supposition, which is entirely new to historians. Nicolet left Allumettes Island about September, 1634, and went to Wisconsin. He must have spent the winter there, in order to return to Canada with the trading parties the following summer. The Indians from the Great Lakes used to reach Three Rivers in July and August; never before nor after that period. They were there on the 20th of July, 1635.

On the 9th of December, 1635, I find Jean Nicolet, interpreter, at Three Rivers, as recorded in the register of the church; and again on the 21st, 27th and 29th of the same month. Again on the 7th and 9th of January; 20th of April; 30th of May; and the 28th of August, 1636.

Nicolet must have spent the winter of 1636-37 in Three Rivers, because we find him on the 16th of April, 1637, leaving that place to go to Quebec at the call of the Governor General. Eleven days after he is present at a council at Quebec, in the interest of the establishment of an Indian settlement at Three Rivers. Dur-