

had a tongue, would lack only six years of running back two centuries.

It is unlikely that the Morosini medal was brought into Illinois in recent years. After inquiry among numismatists in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Washington, I find no duplicate of it in America. Only two specimens have I been able to discover in a European tour of a year, namely, in the British Museum, and the city library of Leipsic.

A Seventeenth Century Ostensorium

Sixteen hundred and eighty-one is the date of the oldest tombstone at Plymouth on the hill above the rock where the Pilgrim Fathers landed. Wisconsin has a relic as old wanting five years, attesting the presence of European settlers within her borders. It is a memorial as indubitably genuine as the Massachusetts gravestone, and more wonderful for many reasons.

This curiosity by a strange good fortune stands before me as I write. It is a silver ornament fifteen inches high, and elaborately wrought. A standard nine inches high supports a radiated circle, closed with glass on both sides, and surmounted with a cross. This glass case, accessible by a wicket, was intended to contain the sacramental wafer when exhibited for popular veneration. The sacred utensil is called a *soleil*, as resembling in shape the solar orb, and also a *monstrance* and an *ostensorium*, because used to demonstrate or ostentate the Corpus Christi.

The antiquity of the relic before me is beyond doubt or cavil. 'Around the rim of its oval base I read the following old French inscription, in letters every one of which, though rude, is perfectly legible: