

who was the first civilized explorer of the territory which makes a part of the present State of Wisconsin.

The next similar adventurer upon our soil was Father Ménard, a French Catholic missionary, who had been laboring to the eastward among the Hurons, for many years. He established, in the year 1660, a mission on the southwestern shore of Lake Superior, at a place called La Pointe. He was far advanced in life, at this time, and it is stated that he soon after perished in the Menomonee River, which forms the northeastern boundary of the State.

Claude Allouez was the first of the Jesuit missionaries who explored extensively the shores of Lake Michigan. He came to Green Bay in the year 1669. The next Spring he passed up the Fox River, then part way down the Wisconsin, when he also returned to Green Bay. This was some thirty-five years after Nicolet's abortive effort to reach the Wisconsin, and the Great Father of Waters. He subsequently established a mission among the Illinois Indians, which was at length broken up, and the remainder of his history is clouded in obscurity.

On the 13th of May, 1673, Father James Marquette, a Jesuit missionary, and Jolliet, an enterprising fur-trader, a resident of Quebec, accompanied by five other persons, left the mission on the St. Mary's River, in two birch-bark canoes. They passed up through the straits of Mackinaw, and coasted around the shores of Lake Michigan, until they entered Green Bay. They then passed up the Bay until they came to the Fox River. Journeying up that stream some distance, they came to an Indian village. Here they held a consultation with these villagers, and acquainted them with the objects of their voyage, which were to pass on to the great river of the West, of which they had heard, and to prepare the way for the introduction of civilization, and the religion which they professed. They requested that guides might accompany them a part of the way, which was readily granted. On the 10th of June, of the same year, they left this Indian village, in their canoes, with their two guides, and renewed their journey up the river. After passing through Lake Winnebago and the upper Fox River,