

[Synopsis: In 1675, Dablon sends to his provincial an account of "the present condition of the missions in New France." It begins with a brief survey of the Ottawa mission, followed by an account of Marquette's last voyage and death.

At Sault Ste. Marie, with its dependent missions on the islands and northern shore of Lake Huron, over one hundred and twenty persons have been baptized, "notwithstanding all the opposition that the devil raises up against the Gospel by various superstitions"—to oppose which the missionaries have more than once risked their lives. At St. Ignace (Marquette's post), the new chapel built last year was, at its opening, "consecrated by sixty-six baptisms," administered to Hurons and Algonkins who have settled there. At De Pere, André has, by mingled patience and firmness, conquered the minds, "most ferocious and superstitious," of the savages in that region. He has formed "a church of four or five hundred Christians;" and has baptized a hundred and forty persons during the past year. Among the Central Wisconsin tribes Allouez has baptized a hundred and sixty. The Mascouten village has been increased, by refugees from many tribes, to a population of 20,000 souls—a parish too large for Allouez, who is now aided by Silvy.¹ Letters from the former give some account of his work there. As usual, the great obstacle in the way of the missionaries is the blind adherence of the savages to their superstitions, especially where dreams are concerned.]—*Jes. Relations*, lix, pp. 69, 71, 217-235.

[Synopsis: The Ottawa missions (1676) have "within a year Given to the Church 367 persons. * * * Of all that number, not more than 60 are adults. The remainder are children, most of whom have gone to Heaven since baptism." Extracts from the missionaries' letters are given. Allouez writes from the De Pere mission (May 26, 1676) that he has spent

¹ Antoine Silvy came to Canada in 1673, and spent his life in the missions. During 1674-78 he was a laborer in the Ottawa missions, aiding Allouez in Wisconsin during the last two years of that period.—Ed.