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# MID - AMERICA

## An Historical Review

VOL. XIII  
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NUMBER 4

### MARQUETTE MEMORIALS

When the great American historian Bancroft said of Marquette, "the people of the West will build his monument," he never dreamed of the vast scale on which his prophecy would be fulfilled. The states of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Illinois have contributed most toward the realization of this prophecy. This great movement toward immortalizing the name of Marquette began in 1877, when the body of Marquette was found in Pointe St. Ignace, just two hundred years after the precious remains were carried there by the Indians. It was this apparently accidental discovery that led to careful investigations, which resulted in a revival of affectionate interest in the great missionary and discoverer. Since that time Catholic and non-Catholic have lavished great honors upon the humble missionary and intrepid explorer. If we but trace the history of Marquette memorials, we shall realize how appreciation for the noble spirit and splendid achievement of this dauntless missionary has grown and spread throughout our country.\*

The first memorial erected to Marquette was a simple stone monument surmounted by a cross to mark his final resting place.<sup>1</sup>

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\* Grateful acknowledgement is due to the Rev. Gilbert J. Garraghan, S. J., managing editor of MID-AMERICA, for valuable suggestions in the preparation of this article; to the Reverend Joseph Reiner, S. J., Dean of Loyola University, Chicago, Ill.; to the Reverend Louis Puhl, S. J., also of Loyola University; to the Reverend J. A. Garrity, S. J., Principal of Campion High School, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin; to the Reverend M. M. Hoffman of Columbia College, Dubuque, Iowa; to Sister Mary Magdelene, Superintendent of St. John's School of Nursing, Springfield, Ill.

Further acknowledgments are due to Mr. Edward P. Brennan of Chicago; Mr. E. J. Doyle of Chicago; Mr. G. J. Buck, President of the Ludington Chamber of Commerce; Mr. E. A. Miller, Assistant Cashier of the Ludington State Bank; Mrs. E. N. Heysett, Regent of the Ludington Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution; Mr. Henry L. Francis, Assistant to the Directors of Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., and Mr. H. H. Niemeyer, Mayor of Portage, Wisconsin.

<sup>1</sup> *Michigan Pioneer and Historical Collections*, 21:464.

It may be seen today at Pointe St. Ignace and the Latin inscription upon it reads in translation:

IN MEMORY OF  
FATHER JACQUES MARQUETTE, S. J.  
WHO DIED MAY 18, 1675, AGED 38 YEARS  
AND WAS BURIED IN THIS GRAVE A. D. 1677.  
REQUIESCAT IN PACE  
THIS STONE WAS ERECTED BY THE INHABITANTS  
OF THE TOWN OF ST. IGNACE  
A. D. 1882

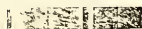
The *Historical Bulletin* (St. Louis University) of March, 1929, set before its readers the following inscription, which apparently one time marked the grave of Marquette at St. Ignace, Michigan. It is signed "Dablon, 15 Nov. 1679," and was presumably composed by that Jesuit Father, who was Marquette's superior. This inscription was published for the first time in the issue named of the *Historical Bulletin*, having been shortly before brought to light in a manuscript collection in Europe. The text has its significance for students of Marquette's life as showing that it was his personal virtue and missionary zeal and not his geographical discoveries which chiefly impressed his contemporaries. The English translation (the original is in Latin) reads:

"HERE AWAITS A BLESSED RESURRECTION THE  
BODY OF FATHER JAMES MARQUETTE, WHO,  
AFTER IMITATING THE MIGHTY XAVIER IN LIFE,  
IMITATED HIM ALSO IN DEATH, WHICH HE MET  
MOST HOLILY IN THE DEPTH OF THE FORESTS,  
SPENT WITH MEASURELESS LABORS, AND BE-  
REFT OF EVERY HUMAN AID, AS HE HAD AR-  
DENTLY WISHED."

In 1884 Bela Hubbard, a wealthy and patriotic citizen of Detroit, had a statue of Marquette placed in a suitable niche in the facade of the City Hall, Detroit, Michigan.<sup>2</sup>

Through the untiring efforts of Col. John L. Mitchell of Milwaukee a joint resolution was passed by Congress May 18, 1892, giving Marquette a place among the American statesmen in the Hall of Fame, in Washington, D. C., as Wisconsin's tribute to one of its illustrious sons.<sup>3</sup> There was some delay in the acceptance of the statue but "today the marble figure of Father Marquette, in his cassock and cloak with his beads and his crucifix

<sup>2</sup> *Michigan Pioneer and Historical Collections*, 21:464.



in his belt, stands beneath the great dome, by far the most artistic in its conception and execution of all the group of notables of the nation."<sup>3</sup> The inscription on the base reads:

WISCONSIN'S TRIBUTE  
 JAMES MARQUETTE, S. J.  
 WHO WITH LOUIS JOLIET  
 DISCOVERED THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER  
 AT PRAIRIE du CHIEN, WISCONSIN  
 JUNE 17, 1673

The first monument erected to Marquette in the state of Illinois was at Summit, in 1895. Through the courtesy of Mr. Edward P. Brennan of Chicago, the following record of the inscription on the original tablet, placed on the mound of boulders, was obtained:

FATHER MARQUETTE  
 LANDED HERE 1675

On March 31, 1675, Father Marquette was flooded out from his winter quarters at Robey Street, Chicago, and the next day camped at this point which is located by a comparison of his Journal with the original engineers' levels and surveys of the country.

This monument constructed of boulders brought by the glaciers from the Lake Superior regions and deposited in this valley, having traversed the route followed later by Marquette.

ERECTED BY  
 CHICAGO AND ALTON RAILROAD,  
 AUGUST, 1895  
 SUMMIT, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

This tablet, however, had been stolen. A Mr. Sommerville replaced it by a new one, but at that time he was unable to find a record of the original inscription. Therefore, the inscription on the present tablet reads:

FATHER MARQUETTE  
 LANDED HERE 1675

This monument is constructed of boulders brought by the glaciers from Lake Superior region and deposited in this valley, having traversed the route later followed by the earlier French explorers, La Salle, Joliet and Marquette.

<sup>3</sup> *Congressional Records*, 52 Congress, 1st Session.

<sup>4</sup> Thomas J. Campbell, *Pioneer Priests of North America, 1642-1710*, 3:183.



ERECTED BY  
CHICAGO AND ALTON RAILROAD  
AUGUST, 1895  
SUMMIT, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

When the state of Wisconsin placed the marble statue of Father Marquette in the rotunda of the Capitol, Mr. A. E. Archambeau of Marquette, Michigan, suggested that it would be fitting to have a bronze replica made for that city. Through the efforts of Peter White a statue of the great missionary was unveiled in the city square, July 15, 1895,<sup>5</sup> with appropriate ceremonies, Hon. Don M. Dickson making the principal speech.

The place where Marquette and Joliet crossed the Wisconsin Portage, at the present site of the city of Portage,<sup>6</sup> on their triumphal discovery of the "Father of Waters" was appropriately marked in 1905 by a stone monument bearing the inscription:

THIS TABLET MARKS THE  
PLACE NEAR WHICH  
JACQUES MARQUETTE  
AND  
LOUIS JOLIET  
ENTERED THE WISCONSIN RIVER  
JUNE 14, 1673

---

ERECTED BY  
WAU-BUN CHAPTER D. A. R. 1905

The year 1905 saw the erection of another memorial, this one being on Perrin's Ledge, two miles north of Kampville, Calhoun County, Illinois.<sup>7</sup> The dedication reads:

TO  
MARQUETTE, JOLIET  
AND THEIR FIVE COMPANIONS  
DISCOVERERS OF THE ILLINOIS  
1673

Mackinac Island honored its great missionary by dedicating on September 1, 1909, a Marquette statue in his honor. The statue, which is a copy of the heroic-sized statue in Statuary Hall, is in the center of Marquette Park, at the foot of Fort Mackinac.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>5</sup> *Michigan Pioneer and Historical Collections*, 30:621.

<sup>6</sup> Louise P. Kellogg, *Early Narratives of the Northwest*, 1634-1699, p. 235.

<sup>7</sup> *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, 20:256.

<sup>8</sup> Edwin O. Wood, *Historic Mackinac*, 1:39.

The following year another stately Marquette statue, surmounting a great Corinthian column, was dedicated on the campus of St. Mary's Academy, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. The base of the monument has the following inscription:

REV. JAMES MARQUETTE, S. J.  
WHO DISCOVERED THE  
MISSISSIPPI RIVER  
AT  
PRAIRIE du CHIEN, WISCONSIN  
JUNE 17, 1673

---

THIS MONUMENT WAS ERECTED  
WITH  
THE SOLICITED CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF GENEROUS CITIZENS  
BY  
THE BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATIONS  
OF PRAIRIE du CHIEN, WISCONSIN  
A. D. 1910

In 1921 a boulder, a granite rock standing about five feet high, was placed on the bank overlooking Père Marquette lake in Buttersville, Michigan, to commemorate the landing and death of Père Marquette. The inscription on the bronze plate is:<sup>9</sup>

THIS BOULDER  
MARKS THE TRADITIONAL LOCATION  
OF THE DEATH OF PERE MARQUETTE  
REVERED AND LOVED BY THE REDMEN  
JAMES MARQUETTE, S. J.  
NOTED FRENCH MISSIONARY AND  
EXPLORER  
THE FIRST WHITE MAN TO REACH  
THESE SHORES  
1637-1675  
TRIBUTE OF LUDINGTON CHAPTER  
DAUGHTERS OF AMERICAN REVOLUTION  
1921

A few years after the erection of this memorial, the history department of Marquette University made an exhaustive survey of Father Marquette's life, explorations and death, and as a result determined the exact spot of Father Marquette's death at about a mile away from the traditional place marked by the boulder. The University raised money for the erection of a new

<sup>9</sup> *Ludington Daily News*, August 26, 1921

memorial, but has not as yet succeeded in obtaining title to the ground where the memorial is to be placed. Nevertheless, a letter from the President of the Chamber of Commerce of Ludington, Michigan, states that the Ludington Exchange club had the new site surveyed and mapped and is co-operating to make it possible for the university to obtain a free title to the site. It is hoped this may be accomplished within a few months, so that the memorial may be erected this year.

Throughout the United States the honor in which Marquette is held is evidenced by the increasing number of memorials erected to his name. The expression of the people's reverence for this historic figure is rapidly assuming the proportions of a real "Marquette Movement." Since 1925 the state of Illinois alone erected six Marquette memorials, five of which are in Chicago.

On December 5, 1925, there was unveiled on the north end of the Michigan Boulevard bridge in Chicago a bronze tablet with the inscription:

IN HONOR OF LOUIS JOLIET AND PERE MARQUETTE  
THE FIRST WHITE MEN TO PASS THROUGH THE CHICAGO RIVER,  
SEPTEMBER, 1673  
THIS TABLET IS PLACED HERE  
ILLINOIS SOCIETY, COLONIAL DAMES OF AMERICA  
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
DECEMBER 5, 1925

The following year, 1926, a splendid bronze group of three figures, an Illinois Indian, Marquette and Jolliet, was erected on Marshall Boulevard, by the Art Institute of Chicago acting as trustee of the Ferguson Fund. The monument is the work of the distinguished sculptor, Herman A. McNeil. The base of the monument carries the legend:

ILLINOIS  
JACQUES MARQUETTE  
LOUIS JOLIET

In honor of these same great pioneers Mr. William Wrigley Jr., presented to the city of Chicago, in 1928, a magnificent pylon which was placed at the northwest corner of Michigan Avenue bridge. The pylon is made of Bedford stone and the inscription below the relief reads:



JOLIET, FATHER MARQUETTE, LA SALLE AND TONTI WILL LIVE IN AMERICAN HISTORY AS FEARLESS EXPLORERS WHO MADE THEIR WAY THROUGH THE GREAT LAKES AND ACROSS THIS WATER SHED TO THE MISSISSIPPI IN THE LATE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY AND TYPIFY THE SPIRIT OF BRAVE ADVENTURE WHICH HAS ALWAYS BEEN FIRMLY PLANTED IN THE CHARACTER OF THE MIDDLE WEST.

September 1, 1929, Bishop James A. Griffin, D. D., of Springfield, Illinois, blessed a Marquette memorial at Grafton, Illinois. This monument marks the spot where Louis Joliet, James Marquette, and their five companions entered Illinois in the summer of 1673 by the Illinois river, which meets the Mississippi at Grafton. The monument, the gift of Mr. H. H. Ferguson, bears the inscription:<sup>10</sup>

IN THE EARLY AUGUST OF 1673  
MARQUETTE, JOLIET AND FIVE COMPANIONS  
ENTERED ILLINOIS  
DAWN HERALDS OF RELIGION, CIVIL GOVERNMENT  
AND CONSECRATED LABOR  
DEDICATED SEPT. 1, 1929  
RT. REV. JAMES A. GRIFFIN, D. D.  
BISHOP OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

On May 16, 1930, a monument to pay tribute to Marquette was unveiled by the Chicago Historical Society, at Harlem Avenue and 49th Street. The inscription on the tablet follows:

THE CHICAGO PORTAGE

THIS MARKS THE WEST END OF THE CARRYING OR CONNECTING PLACE UNITING THE WATERS OF THE ST. LAWRENCE RIVER AND THE GREAT LAKES WITH THOSE OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, ITS TRIBUTARIES AND THE GULF OF MEXICO. THE EARLIEST FACTOR IN DETERMINING CHICAGO'S COMMERCIAL SUPREMACY. AN ARTERY OF TRAVEL USED BY THE ABORIGINES IN THEIR MIGRATIONS AND LATER BY JOLIET, MARQUETTE, LA SALLE, TONTI AND THE FUR TRADERS OF NEW FRANCE. AN EARLY STRATEGICAL POINT, IN THE WARS INCIDENT TO THE WINNING OF THE NORTHWEST FOR THE SETTLERS AND DISCOVERED BY JOLIET AND MARQUETTE IN 1673.

ERECTED BY THE CHICAGO HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN PURSUANCE OF A PLAN TO GIVE POSTERITY THE FACTS OF CHICAGO'S EARLY HISTORY. A. D. 1930.

<sup>10</sup> *Mid-America*, January 1930, p. 268.

In October, 1930, an imposing monument of granite and stone was dedicated to commemorate Father Marquette's historic wintering on the site of Chicago. The monument marks one of the most sacred acres of the earth, where a frail missionary in fulfilling a pledge given to the Indians, labored to conquer a wilderness and by his writings, to build a nation. The memorial stands on the northern approach of the magnificent new bridge spanning the west fork of the south branch of the Chicago river at Damen Avenue.

A bronze tablet affixed to it portrays the first scene of Chicago's history, Father Marquette greeting the Indians. Another bronze tablet reads:

JAMES MARQUETTE, FRENCH PRIEST, OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS, ON HIS MISSION TO THE ILLINOIS INDIANS SPENT THE WINTER HERE OF 1674-1675.

HIS JOURNAL BROUGHT FIRST TO THE WORLD'S ATTENTION THE ADVANTAGES OF CLIMATE, SOIL AND TRANSPORTATION IN THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY AND THE GREAT LAKES BASIN.

"THIS MONUMENT ERECTED BY THE CITY OF CHICAGO, WM. HALE THOMPSON, MAYOR; MICHAEL J. FAHERTY, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS."

Architecture, likewise, has immortalized the name of Marquette. Over the doors of the main entrance of the Marquette Building on Adams and Dearborn streets, Chicago, are bronze reliefs, designed and executed by Mr. Herman A. McNeil, a faithful student of Indian characteristics, illustrating incidents in the life and of the death of Père Marquette. Copies of these reliefs are frequently found in American history texts.

In the first relief we see Marquette, Jolliet and their five companions launching their canoes on the headwaters of the Wisconsin river "to follow those waters . . . which will henceforth lead us into strange lands."<sup>11</sup>

In the second, Marquette and Jolliet meet the attack of the Indians on the Mississippi, when "in vain I showed the calumet . . . to explain that we had not come as enemies."<sup>12</sup>

In the third, Marquette arrives at the Chicago river, and "passing two leagues up the river we resolved to winter there . . . being detained by my illness."<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Ralph Nursey, *The Legacy of Père Marquette*, Marquette Publishing Co., Chicago, Illinois, p. 8.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 12

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 14

In the last we see the burial of Marquette at St. Ignace. "The De Profundis was intoned . . . the body was then carried to the church."<sup>14</sup>

"A large space in the center of the building was sacrificed by the owners for the purpose of a memorial rotunda in honor of Marquette. With the help of artist, sculptor, architect and constructor they have succeeded in producing a monument worthy of the explorer. The most interesting features of the polygon rotunda are the panel decorations of glass mosaic and mother-of-pearl, on the face of the balcony, between the first and second floor. The glass mosaic work, from designs by Mr. J. A. Holzer, consists of three pictorial tablets, descriptive of leading events in the career of Marquette."<sup>15</sup> Copies of these mosaics are also found in American history texts.

The first mosaic portrays the departure of Marquette and Jolliet from St. Ignace on their first voyage to the Illinois. On a small border on top of the mosaic is inscribed the sentence from Marquette's Journal, "FIRMLY RESOLVED TO DO ALL AND SUFFER ALL FOR SO GLORIOUS AN ENTERPRISE."<sup>16</sup>

The second mosaic pictures the meeting with the Illinois, with the inscription, "THEY ANSWERED THAT THEY WERE ILLINOIS AND IN TOKEN OF PEACE PRESENTED THE PIPE TO SMOKE."<sup>17</sup>

The last commemorates the death of Marquette and this time the sentence is taken from Dablon's narrative, "TO DIE AS HE HAD ALWAYS ASKED . . . IN A WRETCHED CABIN AMID THE FOREST, DESTITUTE OF ALL HUMAN AID."<sup>18</sup>

Paintings, too, have preserved for us many incidents from the life of Marquette. There is a striking painting of the missionary and explorer by the Munich artist, Lamprecht, in the reception room of Marquette University. In 1892 William Gibbs conceived and executed one of the finest works extant in this field, "Father Marquette at St. Ignace in 1670." He spent much time in consulting historical accounts of Father Marquette and obtained his inspiration for the portrait of Marquette in the picture from a cut of a statue of the missionary executed by an artist in Montreal. After the painting was completed a certain Mr. William Spice removed it to St. Ignace. Mr. Agrell, of St.

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<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 18.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 27.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 6.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 10.

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 16.

Ignace, photographed it and sold thousands of such photographs to tourists. This design was adopted and used for one of the designs of postage stamps by the government, and later adopted by the State Pioneer Society of Michigan as a frontispiece to its thirty-second volume of records and transactions.<sup>19</sup>

Another painting of Marquette may be seen in the State Capitol at Springfield, Illinois. The walls of the interior of this building, designed to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the admission of Illinois as a state, are decorated with scenes depicting events in Illinois history. Among the mural decorations on the first floor we find Marquette and Joliet at an Indian Village on the Des Plaines river near Joliet.<sup>20</sup>

A large-scale mural decoration in the Elizabeth M. Cudahy Memorial Library of Loyola University, Chicago, honors Marquette.

"The painting, by John W. Norton, Chicago, is conceived as a pictorial cartographical record of Jesuit missionary activity in the Great Lakes Region and Upper Mississippi Valley during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The Latin legend at the lower left-hand corner reads in translation: "New Lands in North America explored and evangelized by the Fathers of the Society of Jesus." The background is suggested by Père Marquette's well-known holograph map, which is dealt with freely by the artist. Scenes and episodes in the pictorial map indicate Marquette at the Wisconsin-Mississippi junction, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, 1673; his arrival at the mouth of the Arkansas, the Lower Mississippi, 1673; his wintering on the site of modern Chicago, 1674-1675; and his Kaskaskia Mission on the Illinois River, 1675."<sup>21</sup>

There is a series of Marquette paintings in the rooms of the Joliet High School, Joliet, Illinois.

Other interesting memorials of Marquette are stained glass windows. The one in Memorial Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, has an interesting history. In 1891 at an informal meeting of a few members of the Class of 1875 of Harvard University, a suggestion that the Class undertake to provide an appropriate stained glass window for Memorial Hall was approved by those present.

The second space from the west end of the north side was secured, and in 1892 a committee of five was appointed to take charge of the design and construction of this window. The committee's choice of the subject fell upon La Salle and Marquette,

<sup>19</sup> *Michigan Pioneer and Historical Collections*, 30:304.

<sup>20</sup> *Illinois Blue Book*, 1925-1926, p. 396.

<sup>21</sup> From an explanation of the mural painting by G. J. Garraghan, S. J.



in recognition of America's twofold debt to France, which is perhaps too little recognized, an obligation as well for pioneer work which gave us a large part of our present territory, as for powerful aid in the gaining of our independence. Memories of these two men could not but be vividly recalled in the year of the death of the famous historian of their time, a graduate of the College, Mr. Francis Parkman.<sup>22</sup>

In 1895 the window was completed. It is composed of English and Venetian glass and is one of the most beautiful in Memorial Hall. In the right-hand panel, facing the observer, is the figure of La Salle, in the left-hand panel, that of Marquette, standing in striking relief against a brilliant background, raising a cross in his right hand. In the base appears the seal of the Society of Jesus. In the center of the irregular quatre-foil tracery, at the apex of the window, "1875" is inscribed.<sup>23</sup>

In 1928 a luminous mosaic window was placed in the Immaculate Conception Cathedral of Springfield, Illinois, to pay tribute to the great missionary. The motif of the windows on the south wall of the Cathedral is the Church's contribution towards America, and the development of Catholicism on this Western continent. The third window of this group shows the intrepid Father Marquette established at Chicago in the winter of 1674, on his return to preach to the Indians of the Middle West.<sup>24</sup> The windows are after designs by Thomas O'Shaughnessy of Chicago.

The Firmin Desloge Hospital of St. Louis University, now in course of erection, will have attached to it a Gothic chapel designed by Ferguson and Cram of Boston. The chapel will be featured by a series of twenty-four stained glass windows depicting scenes chiefly in Jesuit missionary history in Canada and the United States. Two units of the series will be Marquette subjects.

In Chicago where Marquette spent a memorable winter a simpler but none the less significant type of memorial was erected. In 1907 a cross of mahogany was placed at the foot of Robey Street telling the following story:<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> Francis Parkman died November 8, 1893.

<sup>23</sup> Harvard College, Class of 1875, 1st-7th. Reports.

<sup>24</sup> *Diocesan Diamond Jubilee Booklet*, 1928, p. 51.

<sup>25</sup> William Atkinson, *Story of Chicago and National Development*, pp. 4-5.



IN MEMORY OF FATHER MARQUETTE, S. J. AND LOUIS JOLIET OF NEW FRANCE (CANADA) FIRST WHITE EXPLORERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI AND ILLINOIS RIVERS AND LAKE MICHIGAN 1673, NAVIGATING 2,500 MILES IN CANOES IN 120 DAYS. IN CROSSING THE SITE OF CHICAGO JOLIET RECOMMENDED IT FOR ITS NATURAL ADVANTAGES AS A PLACE OF FIRST SETTLEMENT AND SUGGESTED A LAKE-TO-THE-GULF WATERWAY (See Jesuit Relations, Vol. 58, p. 105) BY CUTTING A CANAL THROUGH THE "PORTAGE" WEST OF HERE WHERE BEGINS THE CHICAGO DRAINAGE SHIP CANAL. WORK ON THIS CANAL BEGAN SEPTEMBER 3, 1893 AND IT RECEIVED THE FIRST WATER OF LAKE MICHIGAN, JANUARY 2, 1902. THIS REMARKABLE PROPHECY MADE 234 YEARS AGO IS NOW BEING FULFILLED. THE END OF ROBNEY STREET IS THE HISTORIC "HIGH GROUND" WHERE MARQUETTE SPENT THE WINTER 1674-1675. "TO DO AND SUFFER EVERY-THING FOR SO GLORIOUS AN UNDERTAKING."

"ERECTED SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 28, 1907, BY THE CITY OF CHICAGO AND CHICAGO ASSOCIATION OF COMMERCE."

This memorial cross was maliciously destroyed but was later replaced by a new one erected by the Willey Lumber Company. This second cross in turn disappeared to make room for the new Damen Avenue Bridge with its splendid Marquette monument at the northern approach. (See *supra.*, p. 298.)

The name of Marquette will ever be venerated in America. As with other great men, numerous places have been named in his honor. There is a Marquette, town or village, in Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa. A county in the upper peninsula of Michigan, and one each in Wisconsin, Kansas, and Nebraska are called Marquette. Even an iron ore district in Michigan claims the distinction of being named after the great explorer. The river, on whose banks the missionary expired, was called Marquette. Shea in his book, *Discovery and Exploration of the Mississippi Valley* says, "It was indeed long called Marquette River, but from recent maps the name seems to have been forgotten."<sup>26</sup> But from information obtained from Mr. G. J. Buck, President of the Chamber of Commerce, Ludington, Michigan, it seems that this is not the case. For, to the people of Ludington, the little lake and small river just south of the city are still known as the Marquette lake and Père Marquette river. The city, however, was called Marquette only until 1867.

In Milwaukee the Jesuits have built a Marquette University High School, as well as a University, which rejoices in the possession of some of the relics of Marquette that were given to it

when his grave was opened in Pointe St. Ignace. Each year Marquette University awards a Certificate of Distinctive Civic Service to the man or woman who has most benefited the community and thus aims to instill in the hearts of men and women a desire to emulate the great Marquette, who by his example teaches us to magnify the love of God and fellow man in our hearts by deeds of service and self-sacrifice in everyday life.

Another striking tribute paid to Marquette is the giving of his name to a railway system in Michigan, the Pere Marquette. As Agnes Repplier says, "The mere sight of this road's time tables, ornamented with a picture of a particularly snorty and smoke-blowing engine, makes one think anew of the two little boats threading their slow and difficult way through the dangerous currents of the Mississippi."<sup>27</sup>

In the early part of the twentieth century a layman's movement, for the purpose of co-operating with the ecclesiastical authorities to preserve the Faith among the Catholic Indians of the United States, and to endeavor in every legitimate way to improve the spiritual and material conditions of the American Indian, resulted in the formation of a society which is appropriately called the Marquette League. Today this league works in harmony with the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, Washington, D. C., and its work extends into almost every state of the Union, thus not only preserving the name but above all the "glorious enterprise" of Marquette, who gave his life that others may have life more abundantly.

The city of Chicago is actively endeavoring to perpetuate the memory of Marquette and to obtain for him, recognition as a great national hero. By proclamation of Mayor William E. Dever the "fourth day of December" has been set aside as "Marquette Day" to be observed and celebrated in accordance with the terms of the preamble and resolutions adopted by the City Council, December 3, 1924.<sup>28</sup>

Numerous as are the memorials of the devoted missionary, neither bronze nor marble is so glorious a testimony to his name as the reverence in which this meek, single-hearted, unpretentious, illustrious Marquette shall ever be held.

Notre Dame High School  
Cleveland, Ohio

MARY COLOMBIERE ARTH

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<sup>27</sup> Agnes Repplier, *Père Marquette*, p. 279-280.

<sup>28</sup> *Illinois Catholic Historical Review*, Oct., 1924.