

place where he spent the winter is probably Old Village Point [11], seven miles north of the present town of L'Anse.

A dreary winter it proved to be. Treated harshly by a chief whom the French called *Le Brochet* [12], Ménard took up his abode in a hut of fir-tree branches, his sole refuge from the rigors of a Lake Superior winter. Privation continued to be his lot. He ate the remains of fish, and also the pulverized bark of birch and whitewood, either boiled in water in which a fish had been cooked or else mixed with fish-oil. Acorns were devoured with relish by him and his companions. In the face of all this bodily discomfort, Ménard ceased not to labor for his church. He baptized a number of dying infants and converted fifty adult Indians.

Some time before this the Tobacco Hurons, after fleeing, from the wrath of the Iroquois, first to Mackinac, thence to the islands of Green Bay and later to Lake Pepin, on the Mississippi River, had reached the headwaters of the Black River in Wisconsin. Among those poor Indians were some who had been baptized in their native country and these now implored Ménard to visit them, assuring him that their countrymen would embrace his faith if he would go to them. [13] Ménard, who had previously become discouraged by the vice and obduracy of the Indians at Keweenaw Bay, gladly embraced this new opportunity to do good. He took the precaution, however, to send three young Frenchmen to the village of these Hurons, with directions to report to him concerning their condition. These young Frenchmen returned to Keweenaw Bay about the middle of June, 1661. They had found the Hurons in a starving condition and they endeavored, but in vain, to dissuade the missionary from attempting the

[11] This was the opinion of the late Rev. Edward Jacker, the learned antiquarian who discovered what are supposed to be the bones of Marquette, relics that for the most part now repose in Marquette College, Milwaukee.

[12] The French synonym for "kinoje," the Chippewa word for pike or pickerel.

[13] "Relation" 1663, p. 21, Quebec edition, et seq.