

quette and Father Dablon built their missionary station on a tiny island of rocks, not more than two canoe lengths from shore, on the American side. But men who have written books declare it was on the bank below the rapids.

Jolliet had come of different though not less worthy stock. He was Canadian born, the son of a wagon-maker in Quebec ; and he had been



Autograph of Jolliet.

well educated, and possessed an active, adventurous mind. He was dressed for this expedition in the tough buckskin hunting suit which frontiersmen then wore. But Marquette retained the long black cassock of the priest. Their five voyageurs — or trained woodsmen — in more or less stained buckskin and caps of fur, sent the canoes shooting over the water with scarcely a sound, dipping a paddle now on this side and now on that, Indian fashion ; Marquette and Jolliet taking turns with them as the