

largest monsters were frightful to see and huge as calves, with horns on the head like deer, a fearful look, red eyes, bearded like a tiger, face somewhat like a man's, body covered with scales, and the tail so long that it goes around the body twice, going up over the head and down between the legs, and ending, at last, in a fish's tail. These figures are represented as very high, so that it must have been hard work to get up there to paint them, and yet we are told that "good painters in France would find it no easy thing to do as well." The colors employed were green, red and black, and the drawing was bold and not out of proportion. This curiosity, upon which the boldest Indian dare not gaze long, is accurately located by Marquette as a little above the mouth of the Missouri, seeing that he and his companions were still talking about the wonder, when they caught sight of the mighty river, which if, as it ought to be, it bore its name to the Gulf of Mexico, would make it longer than the present Mississippi, ahead of the Amazon, and thus the longest continuous river in the world.

From Marquette's Relation, it is evident that Marquette and Joliet passed the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers at the time of the spring floods, when the banks are overflowed and the waters rush onward like torrents.

The travellers must also have witnessed the spectacle of the hue of the water from the mouth of the Missouri to the mouth of the Arkansas—a phenomenon that lasts till this day, where the Missouri or western side is yellow with the clay of disintegrated shores, and the eastern or Mississippi is as clear as crystal. We have the same spectacle at St. Anne's, where the Ottawa flows into the St. Lawrence, but the difference is not so perceptible.

Having escaped from the freshets of the Missouri, Father Marquette held on his course, which he describes briefly and neatly. He reached the mouth of the Ohio, or Onaboukigon, on which, he says, the Shawnees dwelt in thirty-