

south shore of Lake Superior, as well as much of what is now Northwestern Wisconsin and part of what is now Northeastern Minnesota. It was quickly decided that two missionaries should return with these Indians, and Ménard was one of those chosen. The other priest selected was Charles Albanel, who, however, was destined to go overland to Hudson Bay before seeing any part of the West.

Ménard was now fifty-five years of age. Hardship and excessive work had left their marks upon him. His attenuated form was bent as with great age, his hair was white, and it is said [5] that his face bore the scars of wounds which he had received at the hands of the Cayuga children. But old and decrepit as he was, he possessed a lofty soul and a stout heart. In a letter to a reverend friend, penned at Three Rivers at 2 o'clock in the morning of August 27th, 1660, just a few hours before his departure for Lake Superior, Ménard, among other things, said:

"I write you probably the last word and I desire it to be the seal of our friendship unto eternity. * * * In three or four months you may put me into the Memento of the dead, considering the manner of living of these people, and my age and weak constitution. Notwithstanding all this, I have felt such a powerful attraction and have seen so little of nature in this undertaking, that I can not doubt that I would have had eternal remorse had I missed this opportunity.

"We were taken a little by surprise, so that we were unable to provide ourselves with clothing and other necessary things. But He who feeds the little birds and clothes the lilies of the fields will take care of His servants. Should we happen to die of misery, that would be for us a great happiness."

Ménard left Three Rivers on August 28th. Besides Albanel, Jean Guérin, a *donné* [6] of the Jesuit Order, and seven other Frenchmen started with him. While ascending the St. Lawrence, between Three Rivers and Montreal,

[5] John Gilmary Shea, in "Catholic Missions."

[6] *Donnés* were pious laymen who gave their services to the work of the Jesuit missions. The most noted *donnés* were René Goupil, Jean Guérin and Guillaume Couture. The institution was peculiar to New France.