

dently of Father Julian Garnier, who was then in the Seneca country, while Gravier never was. On page 255 the extract from Frontenac's letter regarding Joliet, has the date suppressed in the text and given only in the summary, which in view of the fact that the animus of the whole collection is to assail Joliet, does not look accidental.

There are, undoubtedly, papers here made accessible to historical students for the first time, but their number and value are not what one would expect from a collector possessing for years the remarkable advantages of Mr. Margry. The most important are really those which give the true story of La Salle's last attempt, expose his piratical object and relieve Beaujeu from the odium so long, so disingenuously and so persistently heaped upon him.

In his letter to Mr. Draper, as translated by Mr. James D. Butler, Mr. Margry says: "I still very firmly believe that La Salle discovered the Mississippi by way of the Lakes, by Chicago and by the Illinois River, as far south as the 36th parallel and all this before 1673 (the date of Marquette's discovery). This opinion of mine I base first on the narrative made by La Salle to the Abbé Renaudot." This narrative describes an expedition in which La Salle was engaged southwest of Lake Ontario, for a distance of four hundred leagues, and down a river that must have been the Ohio. This was in 1669.

The narrative proceeds: "Some time thereafter he made a second expedition on the same river which he quitted below Lake Erie, made a portage of six or seven leagues to embark on that lake, traversed it toward the north, ascended the river out of which it flows, passed the Lake of Dirty Water