

overtook him in his pious pilgrimage. On the 18th of May, 1675, coasting in his canoe along the eastern shore of Lake Michigan, he entered a small river. Here he landed, built an altar, and performed the mass, saying that his voyage, he believed, was destined to end there. He then retired into the wood, desiring his two companions to leave him alone for the space of half an hour. At the end of that time they made search, and found the good father, his presentiment fulfilled, lying quietly dead in the shade of the eternal forest. In this obscure, but not unfitting manner, perished a man, illustrious for his courage, endurance, and enterprise, and endeared to remembrance by his pious and philanthropic labours for the souls of his fellow-men."

At Quebec, the tidings brought by Joliet were received with extraordinary enthusiasm, and the achievement of the two associates was justly considered the greatest and most important discovery of the age. All day the bells rang aloud, and the bishop and clergy, with all the authorities of the city, went in solemn procession to the cathedral, where a *Te Deum* was sung, and a high mass performed, in honour of the memorable occasion.

CHAPTER II.

LA SALLE: HIS ATTEMPTS TO REACH CHINA.—GRANT OF THE KING.—TONTI: THEIR EXPEDITION TO THE WEST: DISCOVERED BY TREACHERY.—ACTUAL AND PRETENDED DISCOVERIES OF FATHER HENNEPIN.—VOYAGE OF LA SALLE TO THE OUTLET OF THE MISSISSIPPI: HE TAKES POSSESSION OF THE VALLEY.—THE RETURN.—IMITATION OF INDIAN FEROCITY.

THE magnificent enterprise so splendidly commenced by Marquette, was ere long completed by an adventurer, his equal in courage, enthusiasm, and patient endurance. Robert Cavalier, Sieur de la Salle, a young man who had been a member of the order of Jesuits, was at this time in Canada, engaged in the undertaking of finding a westerly passage to China. He proceeded, however, on this chimerical expedition no further than the spot now known as La Chine,

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