

They reached the Upper Missouri, followed its course as far as the Yellowstone, and on January 1, 1743 pitched their tents at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, sixty years before the arrival of the American trail-makers, Lewis and Clarke.

The elder de la Vérendrye found himself meantime the victim of jealousy and hatred. Blamed by the Quebec Government (though Beauharnois was always true), accused of illicit trading, and disgusted by the ingratitude of those who had profited by his sacrifices and labors, he resigned his position as Commandant of the Northwest, and withdrew from public life. He was reinstated, however, in all his honors, and others were added, but his toil, his misfortune and especially the attack on his honor had shattered his constitution, and he died on December 6, 1749. Canada owes much to de la Vérendrye.

No wonder that Father Aulneau was soon forgotten. Of course the untiring Father Martin wrote about him, but even he makes a mistake of four years in recording the date of his arrival in America; making it 1730 instead of 1734.

In 1890, however, immediately after the discovery of the Aulneau letters, the clouds began to lift. The Jesuits of St. Boniface College, Manitoba, visited *Ile au Massacre* immediately, and erected a cross upon it. They were accompanied by Captain Laverdière, who knew the lake by heart, and besides had all the traditions of the Indians at his finger tips. There could be no mistake about the locality. Subsequent developments showed that no error had been committed.

In 1902, Mgr Langevin, the Archbishop of St. Boniface, who like his predecessor, had been for years intensely interested in the question, organized an expedition at his own expense to discover, if possible, the site of Fort St. Charles. They left Rat Portage September 2, on the steamer "Catherina S," and in the afternoon stopped at the *Ile au Massacre* to say a prayer at the foot of the cross which the Jesuits had planted there two years before. From there they went to Flag Island, where they took on board the great chief Powassin, who said he knew all about Fort St. Charles. He led them straight to the place, and told them exactly the kind of ruins they were going to find. They saw there