

SKETCH OF FATHER LOUIS ANDRÉ, S. J.

AN EARLY WISCONSIN MISSIONARY.

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FATHER LOUIS ANDRÉ was born in 1623, and previous to his coming to New France he had entered the Society of Jesus as a member of the province of Toulouse. As a Canadian missionary he was within the jurisdiction of the province of France. Father André reached America on the 7th of June, 1669.*

1669. But a short time elapsed before he was sent to the Western Missions, where Claude Allouez, Jacques Marquette, and Claude Dablon, together with the coadjutor Brother Louis Le Boesme, were already toiling in the Master's vineyard. Allouez, who was stationed at the mission of St. Francis Xavier, Green Bay, informs us in the Relation of 1670, but in somewhat ambiguous terms, that "le P. Louys André, arrivé icy l'an passe, destiné du premier abord a cette mission, ou il est donc allé, apres avoir fait icy un an de noviciat de mission, parmi les Algonquins qui y font leur demeure." †

Allouez, whose sphere of action was, as we have said, in the vicinity of the "Baie des Puants," had gone for a time to Sault-St. Marie, which was the original destination of André. The confusion in the passage quoted arises from the fact that Allouez speaks as if he were writing from the Bay and from the Sault at the same time.

André's year of apprenticeship to a missionary life was made, we presume, in part at St. Francis Xavier's at the Baie des Puants, and in part at St. Ignace, Michilimakinac. The latter was founded as a mission in 1670. ‡ Father André

* Martin's Catalogue, 1886.

† Rel., 1670, edit. Quebec, 1558, p. 101, col. 2. Conf. Rel., 1671, p. 31, col. 2.

‡ Rel., 1671, p. 39, col. 2.