

diversity in the evidence furnished by the records confronts us, but it is apparent rather than real. The Rev. Paul Ragueneau (*Relation*, 1649) gives us the distance as not more than a league (2.42 English miles); but Christophe Regnaut explicitly makes it much less. (See Letter, Canadian Archives Report, 1884). The latter writer uses the name "St. Ignace" (really applied to the mission among all these villages, as Ragueneau also tells us) for the village to which the two missionaries had set out, and does not mention the name "St. Louis." Regnaut gives the distance as "about a short quarter of a league" from Ste. Marie. The site under consideration, therefore, is not at variance with the conditions prescribed by either of these writers, or by the Rev. F. J. Bressani, who (in his "Breve Relatione") says the distance was not more than two Italian miles from Ste. Marie. (An Italian mile was 132 yards less than our English mile). The Rev. A. E. Jones, S.J., disputes the testimony of Regnaut as to this distance, on the ground that his narrative is dated 29 years afterward, when he was 65 years old, and so perhaps liable to lapse of memory. (Ontario Archaeological Report, 1902, p. 98). I do not see that it is necessary to contradict Regnaut's plain, honest statement; he is entitled to a fair hearing and a fair interpretation of his words. And the significant fact remains of the three men (Ragueneau, Bressani and Regnaut) who mention the distance of the nearest village from Ste. Marie, Regnaut was the only one who actually travelled over the ground itself at the time, viz., a few hours after the massacre.

(e) Wherever situated, it is a fact that St. Louis could be seen from Ste. Marie, as all the writers agree in stating that those in the fort could see the burning of the village. This furnishes a well-authenticated test. From observations made upon the ground, I found that, looking eastward from Ste. Marie, the only place where spectators could see a fire in the distance was at this very site. A small tract of elevated ground, rising out of evergreen thickets, closes the view from Ste. Marie toward the southeast, and disqualifies the sites farther along the trail at the head of Victoria Harbor from being St. Louis.

Port McNicoll, the new eastern terminal of the C. P. R. on Georgian Bay, lies about a mile north-eastward from this village site.