Exhibition of Paintings

By

W. M. Penhallow Henderson

Chicago

The Art Institute of Chicago

January 1 to January 20, 1907
"For they wandered through the land when the earth was full of May—when the wild cherry blossomed in the wilderness as beautifully as in the gardens of Japan—when the blush and bloom of spring was on every bough and the rude mission chapels stood in the same light of dawning or of dying day that Greek temples trembled in of old."
MURAL DECORATIONS FOR THE ENTRANCE
HALL AND CORRIDOR OF THE JOLIET
TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL,
JOLIET, ILLINOIS.

THE VOYAGE OF MARQUETTE AND JOLIET.

1. The Departure. Early Morning: Flesh-color, Violet and Black.
Marquette and Joliet start from Mackinaw, May 17, 1673, hoping to find a waterway to the Gulf of Mexico.

2. The Meeting. Blue, Russet and Rose.
Received with ceremony at an Indian village on Lake Winnebago, Marquette introduces Joliet and himself with the words, "My friend is an envoy of France to discover new countries, and I am an ambassador from God, to enlighten men's souls."

June 17, 1673, Marquette and Joliet reach the mouth of the Wisconsin, and discover the waters of the great river flowing southward.

Near the mouth of the Piasa Creek, about as far down as Rock Island, the two Jesuits come upon an Indian picture cut on the face of a cliff, evidently representing some primitive conception of the Deity. The figure has the "face of a man, horns of a deer, beard of a tiger, and tail of a fish passing around the body, over the head, and between the legs."
Shortly after this point in the narrative, Marquette and Joliet, having explored the Mississippi River as far south as Arkansas, start on their return trip to Canada. Marquette is ill, and stops at the mission at the head of Green Bay to regain his health. Joliet, proceeding to Quebec, is received by the French Court with great rejoicing; rewarded with an island in the St. Lawrence River; and so disappears from the pages of history.

The pictures, from this on, concern themselves with Marquette's second short journey to some of the Indian tribes, to whom, on his first visit, he had promised to return and preach the faith of the Christian religion.

Marquette, with two Frenchmen and several Indians, starts to establish a mission at the principal town of the Illinois. The cold and fatigue of the journey, however, prove too much for his failing strength, and the two Frenchmen build a hut in which Marquette spends the winter. This was on the Chicago River, a short distance from Lake Michigan, then known in 1674 as Lake Illinois.

With the return of spring, the journey is resumed. Near the present town of Utica, five hundred Indian chiefs, besides warriors, women and children, are said to have listened to Marquette's preaching. Holding a rose in his hand as a symbol, Marquette talks to the Indians of the mystery of the resurrection of life, the beauty and gentleness of nature, and, telling them the story of Christ and the Virgin, shows them a picture of the Madonna. Good Friday Eve, April, 1675.
Turning again toward home on account of increasing illness, Marquette is unable to reach Mackinaw, but is forced to land on the eastern shore of Lake Michigan where his companions again build him a hut, and where, on the 19th of May, the Jesuit priest dies,—touching his lips to the crucifix and breathing the name of the Virgin.

Three years later, a band of Ottawa Indians from Mackinaw seek out the grave of Marquette and carry the bones back to the mission in a ceremonial procession of thirty canoes.

8. The Last Sermon of the Rose. Twilight: Rose, Grey and Black.
Procession of Indians and priests carrying the bones of Marquette to their last resting place in the little chapel on the Straits of Mackinaw.


PORTRAITS AND OTHER PAINTINGS.

11. Portrait, Master Alfred Coles Haven, Jr.
    Lent by Dr. A. C. Haven.


    Lent by Mrs. John S. Belden.


15. Spring in Tuscany.


17. Silver Poplars, Toledo.

18. The Bridge at Charenton.


20. The Green Screen.


22. The Ninth Hour.

23. Marine.
    Lent by Miss Dudley.

24. The Toilet.

25. Ponta Delgada Bay.
26. Ponta Delgada Church.
27. Spring—Tower of St. Sulpice.
28. Luxembourg Gardens.
29. Early Moonlight.
30. Portrait Head.
31. Evening Star.
32. Gold and Blue—Storm.
33. Afternoon on the Beach.
34. The Red Cape.
35. Bath-house and Beach.
36. Wind-blown Leaves and Spray.
37. The Bathers.
38. Summer Clouds, after Rain.
39. The Red Roof.
40. The Sea-Poppy.
   Lent by Miss Dorothy Dudley.
41. Yellow Butterflies.