

Mémoire catholique

CATHOLIC LIFE IN ST. PAUL

Cramsie, Mary Isabel, *Catholic Life in St. Paul*, *Catholic World*, 68 (405), décembre 1898, p. 323.

« St. Paul may well be called a Catholic city, founded and named as it was by the building and dedication of a Catholic chapel. From the early days when devoted priests sat in the councils of the Indians, travelled in their canoes, shared their hardships, and partook of their hospitality, down to the present time, heroes of the faith have not been wanting among us; heroes imbued with the same missionary spirit that animated a Hennepin as he penetrated the silent forests and woke the echoes with prayer; or stood before the most picturesque cascade, St. Anthony Falls, whose music had been chanted for ages unheeded, and whose sky-tinted water, unfettered and unburdened, leaped gladly down into the rapids below. And yet it is but a short span that connects the city of to-day with the few log huts that stood along the river bank less than sixty years ago. Streets were unknown. The roads were covered with grass and weeds, and fretted with stumps of trees. But the little log church, built by father Galtier, stood upon the bluff overlooking the great river, its shadowy cross bending with the waves, and deepening and broadening into many sacred symbols with every change of the eddying current. Were its multiple reflections a prophecy of the nobles spires that were soon to lift themselves into the blue sky above the restless river ?”