



Formerly the parish of Ste Marie de Frugie, a coaching inn existed there in 1750. During the Revolution, the commune was called Marie de Frugie. In 1852, the municipal council requested the transfer of the municipality to La Coquille, then a small village of Ste Marie de Frugie, the most populous in the municipality, which has had a postal distribution office since 1847 because it is located on a passage. There was already a commercial activity and 12 fairs a year, on the first Thursday of every month (which still exists today!). The transfer was formalized by imperial decree on January 28, 1856.

La Coquille continued its expansion with the arrival of the railway and in 1861 the station was inaugurated. In 1864, the city council approved the construction of a church, a project carried out through the voluntary subscription of the inhabitants and a loan of 10,000 francs! Placed under the patronage of Saint Joseph, this church was blessed on January 6, 1873 by Bishop Dabert

de Périgueux. There were two forges on the river, La Valouze. La Meynardie refinery was still operating in 1839, employing 3 workers and a few casuals. That of La Barde, more important, included a blast furnace, a pond of 6 ha with its hydrolic trap and a refinery. After the closure of this forge, a spinning mill was created and it continued to run until 1874. Since 2008, this site has been the administrative center of the Regional Park. In 1910, 343 students attended the 2 public schools (boys and girls) of which the boys' school dates from October 10, 1882. A war memorial was inaugurated with 75 names engraved in 1921, made by Honorat, a sculptor in Limoges.

The town of La Coquille owes its name to the pilgrimages of Santiago de Compostela, especially on the way to Vézelay. Here, in fact, in the Middle Ages, many pilgrims going to Santiago stopped in our city. The legend even says that it was in this small village (Sainte Marie, then, which still exists, on the outskirts of the city) that, on the return of the pilgrimage, the shells that were placed at the top of the pilgrim's pole were decorated. were

attached, shells used to draw water from the fountains.

It is easy to imagine that some pilgrims, endowed with a precarious balance, must have accidentally plunged into the deep fountains and perished, trying to quench a strong thirst. Thus, this bowl, at the end of the stick, helped them to easily scoop water without risking sinking completely in the spring.

Another legend specifies that the name of La Coquille would come from robbers, brigands, who, in the region of this Périgord, robbed pilgrims going to Saint Jacques. These robbers called each other the "coquillards"...