

availed himself of this favorable disposition to establish the right of the crown in the most remote quarters of Canada. He had conceived the design during his first term of office, and before leaving France for his second, he wrote to Mr. de Courcelles, and explained to him the advantage of sending to the nations of the north and west a man known to them, in order to induce them to meet by deputy at a convenient place, where he might treat with them according to the king's intentions.¹

1671.

There was no one better fitted for this important charge than a voyageur named Nicholas Perrot.² He was a man of ability, of quite a good family, and of some education. Necessity had obliged him to take service among the Jesuits, and this had led to his intercourse with most of the tribes in Canada, and to his acquiring their languages.

¹ Claude de Bouteroë was a native of Paris, and is described by Mother Juchereau, *Hist. de l'Hotel Dieu*, pp. 196, 207, as a man of fine figure, intellectual countenance, polished and graceful manners, yet able to inspire respect. In 1654 he was admitted counsellor in the *Cour des Monnaies*. He was an antiquarian, and in 1666 published *Recherches Curieuses des Monnoyes de France, avec des Observations, des Preuves et des Figures des Monnoyes*. He came to Canada as Intendant in 1666. His daughter, Mary Dorothy, accompanied him, and lived generally at the Hotel Dieu. She was one of the sponsors of Garakonthié. Mr. de Bouteroë returned to France in 1671, and died in 1680. *L'Abeille*, vii., No. 24.

² Nicholas Perrot, the voyageur, must not be confounded with Mary Perrot, governor of Montreal. Nicholas Perrot was born in 1644. He began his studies with the Jesuits, but soon after entered their service in the Western missions. He was

one of the earliest explorers (*De la Potherie*, ii., 89), and acquired great influence with the Indian tribes, especially the Foxes, who called him *Metamenens* (Little Maize). He brought down a flotilla in 1670. In 1671 he was at Sault St. Mary. In 1684 he raised an Ottawa force to join de la Barre. At a later date he built a fort in the Sioux country above the mouth of the Wisconsin (*Charlevoix, Journal*, p. 398). In 1687 he led down a Western force to join Denonville, but during his absence lost all by the burning of his establishment at Green Bay. In 1690 he assisted in the formal taking possession of the Sioux country. He discovered a lead mine which long bore his name, was commandant in the Miami country in 1692, was nearly burnt at the stake by the Ottawas. After all his labors he returned a ruined man to Montreal, and died subsequent to 1718: *Tailhan's Perrot*, p. 319; *Historical Magazine*, ix., p. 205.