

1671. He had gained their esteem, and had gradually so wormed himself into their confidence, that he easily persuaded them to any course at pleasure. Mr. de Courcelles cast his eyes on Perrot for the negotiation in question; Mr. Talon, who had meanwhile landed at Quebec, approved the choice, and dispatched Perrot with wise instructions.¹

This deputy visited all the northern nations, with whom we had any intercourse,² and invited them to meet in the following spring at Sault St. Mary, where the great Ononchio of the French, that is the king of France, would send one of his captains to impart to them his will. All having promised to send deputies there, he proceeded to the western quarters; but he turned south, and went to Chicagou, at the lower end of Lake Michigan, where the Miamis then were.³ As he approached their village with an escort of Pouteouatamis, given to him as he passed (Green) Bay, inasmuch as war was enkindling between the Sioux and the Mascoutins, a troop of young men from his escort left him to announce his arrival to the Great Chief of the Miamis, named Tetinchoua.

The
Great Chief
of the
Miamis.

This chief could put on foot four or five thousand combatants, and never marched except with a guard of forty soldiers, who patrolled night and day around his tent, while he was there. Perrot, from whose memoirs I draw these details, adds that Tetinchoua rarely communicated

¹ Perrot was selected merely as interpreter and guide to the Sieur de St. Luson: Perrot, Mœurs et Costumes, p. 126. The Relation, 1671, p. 26, accordingly alludes only to St. Luson.

² St. Luson wintered among the Amikoués, and near the Sault Indians, who were on Manitouline Island. Perrot sent messengers to the northern nations, and set out in a canoe from that island to Green Bay: Perrot, Mœurs et Costumes, p. 126.

³ Perrot went no further than Green Bay, which he calls the bay of the Foxes and Miamis: *Ib.*, p. 126. The Miamis were not then at Chicago. See Father Tailhan's note, *Ib.*, p. 290; Relation, 1671, pp. 42, 45, 47; 1673, p. 188; Relations Inédites, i., p. 126; ii., p. 122; Relation, 1673-9, pp. 104, 127; Discovery and Exploration of the Mississippi, pp. 257-264; De la Potherie, Histoire de l'Amérique Septentrionale, ii., p. 125; Historical Magazine, v., pp. 99-104.