

Pepin, where Franquelin placed it two hundred years ago. He gained his information at first-hand—the only source of obtaining it at that day; and most likely from Perrot himself, who repeatedly visited Montreal and Quebec in Franquelin's time; or from Father Marest, or some other reliable person who was intimately acquainted with both the name of the fort and its locality.

### Perrot's Post at Trempealeau

A few notes on the probable localities of the early posts above Fort St. Nicholas, will very properly form the conclusion of this paper.

Franquelin places Perrot's establishment, where he spent the winter of 1685-86, above the mouth of Black River. La Potherie describes it as in a wooded country, at the foot of a mountain, in the rear of which was a large prairie. Dr. Neill justly concludes that the "butte" or mountain noted by Franquelin on his early map, must have been the Trempealeau bluffs—the first elevated locality, some three miles above the mouth of Black River, which fully meets the description given by La Potherie, and noted by Franquelin. "This remarkable bluff," says Lapham, "is about five hundred feet high, affording a beautiful and extensive view of the Mississippi and the surrounding country."

This range of bluffs commences at Trempealeau village, and extends up the river some three miles. Back of the river, a little distance, is a beautiful plateau, where Mr. Hastings suggests, that Perrot may have established his little post, and from the bluff near by issues a fine living spring; or, if a point nearer the river was preferred, it might well have been fixed not far from the springs at the head of the pond.<sup>1</sup>

Or, it may be, that he located his little establishment near the notable Mont Trempealeau—"The Mountain that Dips in the Water"—some three miles above Trempealeau vil-

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<sup>1</sup> Statements of Hon. S. D. Hastings, Hon. R. Bunn, Charles A. Leith, and B. F. Houston. A fine representation of the southern end of the Trempealeau Bluffs is given as the frontispiece to the fourth volume of *Wisconsin Geological Reports*.