

amis, whose villages lay a few leagues below the mouth of the Wisconsin, came, forty strong, to Green Bay where Nicholas Perrot had arrived as governor of the Northwest. "They begged him to set up his establishment on the Mississippi, and near the Wisconsin, in order that they could sell their furs there."<sup>1</sup>

For gaining his consent they brought him presents, a beautiful specimen of lead from their region—and each of the forty gave him four beaver skins.<sup>2</sup>

The Miamis had undertaken this embassy because they had previously been forced to sell peltry cheap, and pay dear for French goods to the Pottawatomies, who had hitherto been their middlemen. The result was that Perrot agreed to establish himself—within twenty days—just where they desired him—a little below the Wisconsin.<sup>3</sup> In accordance with this promise, "the establishment of Perrot was made below the Wisconsin, in a situation very strong against the assaults of neighboring tribes."<sup>4</sup>

The fact that the establishment of Perrot was "fixed in a situation that was very strong against the assaults of neighboring tribes," indicates that it stood in a dangerous place, and that, therefore, it must have been fortified. When we expect a burglar, we bar the door.

At this post, six sub-tribes of the Miamis gathered when the ice in the rivers would bear them, and made a treaty with Perrot. That officer was soon called north near the Chippewa River, and played the part of grand pacificator between the Sioux and more southern tribes. He returned to his southern establishment, gave orders to other tribes who were waiting for him there, and he also discovered and tested the lead mine, twenty-one leagues above the Mouingouena, which for ages after was called by his name.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Vol. ii, p. 251.

<sup>2</sup> La Potherie, ii, 260.

<sup>3</sup> On leur promit de s'établir dans vingt jours au dessous de la rivière d'Ouiskonche.

<sup>4</sup> L'établissement de Perrot se fit au dessous d'Ouiskonche, dans une situation fort avanteuse contre les insults des nations voisines.—La Potherie ii, p. 260.

<sup>5</sup> La Potherie, ii, p. 270.