

Again, the mouth of the Wisconsin was the point where he agreed to meet different tribes in the month when a truce he had made between them would expire. This place was his strategic base of operations, launching the northern tribes against the southern Iroquois.

It would not be strange if no further notice should occur in Perrot's career of his post at the mouth of the Wisconsin; for that officer, soon after the council, was transferred to a post on the Marameg, on the east of Lake Michigan,¹ between the Black and Grand rivers.

It so happens that Perrot's post on the Wisconsin, in the narrative of La Potherie, is called "establishment," and not fort. Yet it was no doubt fortified, not only as all trading factories were wont to be, but more strongly than some others, being of special military as well as commercial importance. Moreover, the word, "establishment" as used by La Potherie to describe Perrot's Wisconsin post, is explained by Perrot's French editor, Tailhan, to mean fort. Concerning Perrot's return from the land of the Sioux to the mouth of the Wisconsin, Tailhan says, that returning "from his old fort he regained the *fort* which he had recently erected."² The old fort of Perrot, and even the post on Starved Rock—the Illinois Gibraltar—are each also called by La Potherie an "establishment." The phrases already quoted from La Potherie, that the establishment of Perrot "was in a very advantageous situation as against the attacks of neighboring tribes," is also a proof that it was a fortified post.

The early existence of a fort near the mouth of the Wisconsin, is further attested by early maps. At that point we read the words *Fort St. Nicholas* inscribed on the map prepared in 1688 by J. B. Franquelin for presentation to the French king. This work, made in Quebec by the king's hydrographer, was certified by the contemporary Canadian governor as "very correct," and is pronounced by Parkman the most remarkable of all the early maps of the interior of

¹ Perrot, p. 276; Tailhan, p. 328.

² De son ancien fort Perrot regagna le fort, qu'il avait récemment élevé. See Perrot, p. 328.