

I am going to say.¹ I have learned that you are very anxious to eat the flesh of the French; I have come with these young men whom you see, in order to satisfy you. Put us into your kettles, and satiate yourselves with the flesh that you have wanted." Then, drawing his sword from the scabbard, he bared to their sight his chest. "My flesh," he continued, "is white and savory, but it is quite salt; if you eat it, I do not think that you can swallow it without vomiting." The head war-Chief immediately replied: "What Son will eat his own Father, from whom he has received life? Thou hast given us birth, since thou has brought us the first Iron; and yet thou tellest us to eat thee." The Frenchman replied to him: "Thou art right in telling me that I have given thee birth; for when I came to thy village you all were in wretchedness—as it were, people who know not where to settle, and who spring from the lowest depths of the earth. But now, how peacefully you live, and how you enjoy the light that I have obtained for you! But you are trying to disturb the land, to kill the Sauteurs, and to reduce to subjection those whom I adopted before I did you. Now vomit up your prey; give me back my body, which you wish to put in your kettle; and fear lest the fumes which would arise if you should cook it might form vapors that would become storm-clouds, extending over your village. In one moment, it would be consumed by the flames and lightnings that would issue from that cloud; and these would be followed by a hailstorm which would fall upon your families, so violently that not one would find shelter from it. You forget that your ancestors and yourselves have been vagabonds until now; are you weary of living in comfort? Vomit forth your anger; and believe in your father, who will not abandon you unless you compel him to do so. Listen to my words, and I will settle the bad scrape that you have got into with the Sauteurs." Nothing more was needed to gain for him the prisoners whom he desired. The arrival of the two Girls at Michilimakinak immediately quieted the Outaouaks, who were preparing to go to war against the Outagamis, for news had been brought to them that the latter had slain the Girls.

¹ In 1683.—LA POTHERIE.