

and retreated to Méchingan,<sup>1</sup> where they constructed a fort, resolving to await there the enemy. The Irroquois came to that region, but were unable to accomplish anything for two years. They made persistent efforts to succeed, and put in the field a little army, as it were, intending to destroy the villages of that new settlement, at which a considerable extent of land had been already cleared. But the Outaouas had time enough to harvest their grain before the arrival of the enemy; for they were always careful to keep scouts on the watch, in order not to be taken by surprise, and the scouts saw the enemy in time. The Irroquois finally arrived one morning before the fort, which appeared to them impregnable. In their army were many Hurons who were the offspring of the people whom they had come to attack—men whose mothers had escaped from the ruin of their tribe when the Irroquois had invaded their former country. The enemy had at the time not much food, because they found very little game on the route which they had followed. Deliberations were held, and propositions for a treaty of peace were made. One of these was that the Hurons who were in the Irroquois army should be given up, which was granted. In order to settle upon the terms of the treaty, it was agreed that six of their chiefs should enter the fort of the Hurons, and that the latter should, in exchange, give six of their men as hostages. A treaty of peace was accordingly made and concluded between them. The Outaouas and Hurons made presents of food to the Irroquois, and also traded with them for blankets and porcelain collars.<sup>1</sup> The latter remained in camp for several days to rest their warriors, but when they entered the fort only a few at a time were admitted, and these were drawn by the Outaouas over the palisades by ropes.

The Outaouas sent word to the Irroquois army before their departure that they wished to present to each of their men a loaf of corn-bread; but they prepared a poison to mix with the bread.

---

<sup>1</sup>By Mechingan (Michigan), Perrot probably means the mainland northwest of Lake Michigan.—Ed.

<sup>2</sup>“Porcelain” is simply the Canadian-French term for the shell, glass, or porcelain beads used as money and ornaments by the Indians—the “wampum” of English writers.—Ed.