

with skill. Besides, the war-fire has been lighted against the Iroquois, and will be extinguished only when he ceases to exist. War was declared on your account when he swept away your families at Chikagon; those dead persons are seen no longer, for they are covered by those of the Frenchmen whom the Iroquois have betrayed through the agency of the Englishman—who was our Ally, and upon whom we have undertaken to avenge ourselves for his treacherous conduct. We have also for an enemy the Loup, who is his son. Accordingly, we shall not be able to assist you if you undertake war against the Mas-koutechs.”

After he had delivered this speech to them he also made two heaps of merchandise; and, displaying these, continued thus: “I place a mat under your dead and ours, that they may sleep in peace; and this other present is to cover them with a piece of bark, in order that bad weather and rain may not disturb them. Onontio, to whom I will make known this assassination, will consider and decide what is best to do.” The Miamis, then, had reason to be satisfied; since they begged him to locate his establishment upon the Missisipi, near Ouiskensing [Wisconsin], so that they could trade with him for their Peltries. The Chief made him a present of a piece of ore which came from a very rich Lead Mine, which he had found on the bank of a stream which empties into the Missisipi;¹ and Perrot promised them that he would within twenty days establish a post below the Ouiskonche [Wisconsin] river. The Chief then returned to his Village.

All the Saki Chiefs and the Poutcouatemis assembled near the Jesuit house. Perrot gave them presents of guns, tobacco, and ammunition, and encouraged them to deal harder blows than ever at the Iroquois, to whom no one was a friend; and he told them how utterly knavish the Iroquois were. He said that the Miamis should distrust their artful words and their fine Collars, which were only so many baits to lure them into their nets; and that, if they should unfortunately fall into those snares, Onontio could not draw them out. He told them that

¹ Probably the Galena river.—Ed.