

skins they told him that they covered the dead whom their people had assassinated, including three Miami Slaves who had escaped from the Iroquois. By another present, they begged that he would allow them to establish their village at the same place where the French were going to settle; that they would demonstrate to him their fidelity, and would trade with him for their Peltries. Perrot told them that they had a right to settle wherever they pleased; but that, if he permitted them to come near the French, they must turn their war-clubs against the Iroquois only; that they must hang up the hatchet against the Nadouaissieux until the fire of the Iroquois should be wholly extinguished. He told them that since Onontio had undertaken war against the Iroquois (who was his son)—on account of the Miamis who had been slain at Chikagon, and for the sake of the Maskoutechs themselves, who had lost their families—he could chastise the Nadouaissieux more easily than they were aware, when he saw that all his children were uniting their forces with his to destroy the common foe. On the next day they presented to the Frenchmen a buffalo and some Indian corn, which was of great assistance to them during the rest of their journey. He disclosed to them the project formed by all the nations—the Miamis, the Outagamis, the Kikabous, and many of the Islinois. All these tribes were to assemble at the Missisipi, to march against the Nadouaissieux. The Miamis were to command the army; the Maskoutechs also were under obligation to join them, in order to avenge the assassination of the Miami Slaves. At that moment some Outagamis brought the news of the defeat of their people by the Nadouaissieux; and they secretly tried to induce the Maskoutechs to unite with them against the French, who had furnished weapons to their enemies. The Maskoutechs were careful not to embroil themselves with the French; and the difficulty which they had already experienced in reinstating themselves in the good graces of the latter hindered them from undertaking any enterprise which would displease the French. These Outagamis, who had got wind of Perrot's sending to La Baye a canoe loaded with Peltries, went to inform their Chief of it; he sent out some men to carry it away. The Frenchmen in the canoe, hearing at night the noise