

turn the hatchet against the Iroquois; but that until they came to the general Rendezvous it was necessary that he himself should be ignorant of their design, in order that he might be there with his tribe and be able to raise a large troop against the Iroquois. The ice was now strong enough to support a man; and the Maskoutech Chiefs had sent to him a warrior to inform him that the Outagamis were far advanced into the country of the Nadouaissieux, and prayed the Miamis to hasten to join them; but the latter had replied that they would do nothing without the Frenchman's consent.

The Tehiduakouingoues, the Ouaouiartanons,¹ the Pepikokis, the Mangakekis, the Pouankikias, and the Kilataks, all Miami tribes, coming from all directions, marched by long stages to reach that Rendezvous. The first five of these tribes were the first to arrive, with their families, at the French post; the other bands would have perished from hunger if the Tehiduakouingoues had not been at hand with a good supply of provisions. Perrot made them many presents, to induce them to turn their war-club against the Iroquois, the common enemy. They excused themselves from a general advance, asserting, nevertheless, that all their young men would go in various detachments to harass the Iroquois youth and carry away some of their heads. But, far from keeping their promise, they amused themselves for an entire month with hunting cattle; meanwhile, all the warriors who had joined the Outagamis and Maskoutechs were intending to march against the Nadouaissieux, while the old men, women, and children would remain with the French.

The Savage's mind is difficult to understand; he speaks in one way and thinks in another. If his friend's interests accord with his own, he is ready to render him a service; if not, he always takes the path by which he can most easily attain his own ends; and he makes all his courage consist in deceiving the enemy by a thousand artifices and knaveries. The French were warned of all the Savages' intrigues by a Miami woman; all these hostile actions would have greatly injured Perrot's scheme

¹ Ouitanons (Wawaiation; called Weas by the English): a tribe allied to the Miamis; in the eighteenth century they were residing along the Wabash river.—Ed.