

rushed; they hope that thou wilt go among the Nadouaissioux to stop their advance." Perrot told him that they ought not to place any confidence in their Jugglers, who are liars; and that it was only the Spirit who could see so far. "Not at all," replied the Outagami; "the Spirit has enabled them to see what they have divined, and that is sure to happen." The Miamis were strongly in favor of advancing. The Frenchman, who felt obliged by the orders that he had received from Monsieur de Frontenac to keep everything quiet among the Allies, concluded that it would be best to avert an attack so fatal to the Outagamis; their destruction would have been very detrimental to the Frenchmen who happened to be in those regions, because the Savages, who are naturally unruly, would have taken the opportunity to vent their resentment against them. He made them understand, however, that since the safety of a band of their nation was concerned, he would go to make some attempt at ameliorating their situation. He encountered on the voyage five cabins of Maskoutechs, a village which was preparing to go to the French establishment to trade there for ammunition. He told them the reason for his departure, and warned them not to trust themselves with the Nadouaissioux.

Perrot finally arrived at the French Fort,¹ where he learned that the Nadouaissioux were forming a large war-party to seek out the Outagamis or some of their Allies. As he was then in a place under his own authority, he made known his arrival to the Nadouaissioux, whom he found, to the number of four hundred, ranging along the Missisipi in order to carry on some warlike enterprise. They would not allow his men to return to him, and themselves came to the Fort, to which they flocked from all sides in order to pillage it. The Commandant demanded why their young men appeared so frightened at the very time when he came to visit his brothers in order to give them life. A Chief, arising, made the warriors retire, and ordered

¹Apparently referring to a fort previously erected by Perrot on the upper Mississippi; it may have been his supposed winter-quarters (1685-86) near Trempealeau, Wis., or else one of the two forts that he built on Lake Pepin. Regarding the locations of early French forts on the Mississippi, see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, x, pp. 299-372.—ED.