

At the treaty of Fort Wayne September 30th, 1809, a medal was given by General Harrison to the Black-Bird. An engraving of this is given at page 306 of Lossing's Pictorial History of the war of 1812. It is entitled the "Black Partridge Medal," by which name the Black-Bird was sometimes known. His Indian name was Maka-de-benessi or Black-Bird.

On the prairie, now included in the city of Chicago, there was a stockade built by Durantaye in 1685, and in 1804 called Fort Dearborn. Here John Kenzie from Quebec opened a trading post, and for twenty years was the only white man beyond the limits of the Fort. Captain Heald was in charge in 1812 when a band of Indians, mostly Potawahomees surrounded Fort Dearborn, and it was soon apparent that the garrison could not hold their own. Makadebenessi, the Black-Bird, then appeared and warned them, saying to Mr. Griffith, the interpreter, in Indian fashion, "Linden birds have been singing in my ears to-day; be careful on the march you are going to take." He then gave to the officer the medal referred to, whether to prove his identity or for some other reason does not appear.

On August 15th the garrison marched out, but were soon cruelly attacked by the Indians as they passed along the shore. The Black-Bird restrained the red men as far as he could, and personally saved Mrs. Helm, step-daughter of Mr. Kenzie, from the scalping-knife. An engraved stone set in the wall of a warehouse near the banks of the Chicago river marks the site of the fort.

The garden of the late George M. Pullman's residence encloses the spot where Mrs. Helm was rescued by our hero. Here in 1893 Mr. Pullman erected in bronze a group representing the brave Black-Bird in the act of throwing up the arm of the savage whose tomahawk would in a moment have ended the woman's life. She lived to bless her brave benefactor, and Chicago honours him under the name of the Black-Bird, not knowing that in so doing our worthy Makadebenessi was the hero.

ASSIKINACK is the name of the next of the Black-Bird warriors to whom we refer. It signifies the Black-Bird with red wings, and sometimes appears as Assignac, Siginoc or Sackanough. Macinac was captured on June 2nd, 1763, when Sacs and Chippewas attacked and massacred the unwary garrison. Assikinack was there as a boy with his mother. He was again, under Shinguacongse, at Macinac when it was captured by the British in 1812. The Commissioner of Indian affairs at Washington furnished me with a copy of the petition of two