

# Western Reserve Historical Society.

CLEVELAND, O., DEC., 1871.

HISTORICAL AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL TRACTS,

NUMBER EIGHT.

## INDIAN AFFAIRS AROUND DETROIT IN 1706.

Speech of Miskouaki, an Ottawa Chief to the Marquis Vaudreuil, Governor General of Canada and his reply, September 1706. Translated by Col. Charles Whittlesey from a manuscript brought with other historical papers, from Paris by Gen. Lewis Cass.

These transcripts are so negligently made, on poor paper and in a hurried chirography; that it is frequently difficult to read them. They give a vivid idea of Indian ferocity, duplicity and cruelty, depicted by one of their own number; from personal observation. It is not known that this remarkable speech; or the reply of Vaudreuil have before this appeared in print. Miskouaki certainly appears well as a narator and a speaker. The Manoir Menard is presumed to be near Quebec.

SPEECH OF MISKOUAKI, BROTHER OF JEAN LE BLANC AN OTTAWA OF DETROIT, WHO CAME FROM MACKINAW TO THE MANOIR MENARD TO MONSIEUR THE MARQUIS DE VAUDREUIL, SEPTEMBER 26th, 1706.

My father you will be surprised by the bad affairs that I am about to inform you of on the part of Pesant, and of Jean Le Blanc touching what has passed at Detroit. I desire you my father to open to me your door, as to one of your children, and listen to what I have to say.

When I left Mackinaw, my father, our old men did not expect me to come so far as this place, hoping you would be still at Montreal. The time is short for me to return. I desire you to be willing to listen to me.

Listen—The Ottawa nations who were at Detroit the Kikakous the Sinagoes and the nation DuSables have been killed, and such as have returned to Mackinaw, came in the greatest distress. It is the Miamis, my father, who have killed us.

The reason we were obliged to fight the Miamis is, that having gone to war against the Sioux, as we have said to Sîeur