

When the red skins first began to play La Crosse we have no information, but it is stated to have been first seen by Europeans when Charlevoix, one of the French pioneers in Canada, ascended the St. Lawrence. That was in the tribe of the Algonquins, who inhabited the country about Quebec and Montreal. Rather more than a century ago, a chief named Pontiac, hoping to surprise the English garrison in the fort at Detroit, collected parties of Delawares, Ottawas, and Shawanees in the neighbourhood. Knowing the skill of the supposed friendly Indians in playing La Crosse, the officers were in the habit of inviting them to play close to the fort. Pontiac directed that on one occasion a larger number than usual were to join in play, and that the ball, as though accidentally, was to be struck into the fort. A few Indians were to follow and