

# HART'S

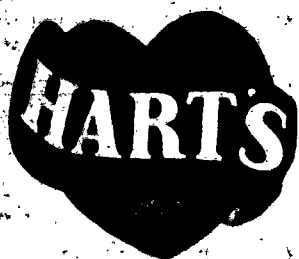
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### Explorations

(Continued from Page 31)

1696—Frontenac to Onondaga. After this latter most successful expedition, there was peace between the Iroquois League and the French until 1759, at which time some Iroquois sided with the English at the fall of Fort Niagara. France became the dominant power over Indian tribes with her leadership of Indians more and more contested in the years after 1700 by the English. Sir William Johnson was leader of the English movement against the French. The French made another advance in 1673-1674. After the end of the summer of 1673 the number of French missionaries among the Senecas was increased from the one lone Father Julien Garner to three. The new Jesuit arrivals at this time were Father Peter Raffeix and then Father Jean (John) Pierron.

The English having temporarily surrendered New York to the Dutch, no protest came from them against the building of Fort Frontenac or against the increase of French Catholic influence over the Senecas.

The explorations of these two new arrivals among the Senecas may be noted here. A map by Father Raffeix published in the Courier C, page 38, shows that he was the first explorer of all the Finger Lakes except Canadice. Father Pierron in 1672 made a long voyage to Boston and to St. Mary's, Maryland. In Boston he talked with the ministers of "Boston" who were amazed at his learning. (P136).

In 1674, with French missionaries in every Iroquois canton and with a strong trade and secular influence growing at Fort Frontenac, the way to the west was open for civilized exploration to enter the heart of the American continent. Many traders and adventurers went with Indians on the long trail to the west. The bones of some, no doubt, rest in nameless graves where the streams flow into the Arctic Ocean.

#### FATHER HENNEPIN

On the last day in 1678 there arrived at Totiakton Sieur De La Motte, lieutenant for La Salle and Father Louis Hennepin. (See Hennepin's jolly and self-important two volume work, "A New Discovery." It is one of the greatest announcements of exploration in America. Everybody should read it. Hennepin called Totiakton after a chief, Thargaronies or Tegarondies, Village.

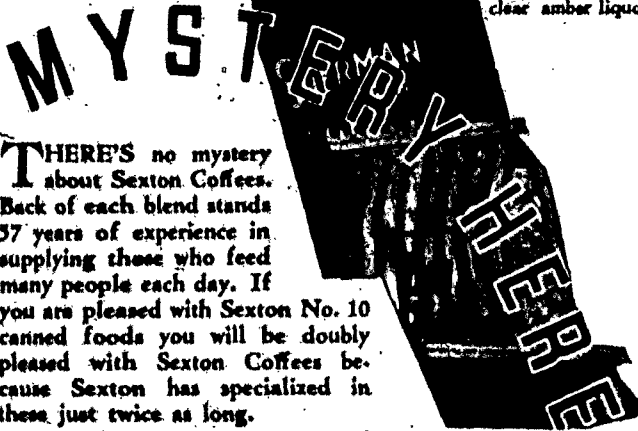
How did Hennepin and De La Motte happen to come east from Niagara to arrive at Totiakton? The answer is that several weeks before this "embassy" to the Senecas, La Salle, then well established as commandant of Fort Frontenac, across Lake Ontario at Kingston, had sent a sailing vessel along the north shore of Lake Ontario to Niagara, with Father Hennepin and De LaMotte and with blacksmiths, ship carpenters, and materials for building the ship Griffon on the upper Niagara River.

Soon after the return of Hennepin and De LaMotte to Niagara, from Totiakton, LaSalle and his most loyal lieutenant, Tonty, appeared at Niagara and said that they had come on Lake Ontario by the southern route and had stopped to visit the Senecas. La Salle said that he had obtained their entire consent to his enterprise.

This visit of La Salle to the Senecas about January 1679 is the second recorded visit of La Salle to the Senecas.

Notice the first visit recorded by the Salpician, Rene Galinee happened nine and a half years before in August, 1669.

# NO



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