

1685.

believe that it makes their limbs supple, and swifter in running. They drink it to such an excess that they often only swallow and vomit. They make another from the leaves of some unknown tree, which they boil, then brew as we do chocolate, and which foams considerably. They drink it very hot, and use it especially to refresh themselves after a long march.

Their customs bear very little resemblance to those of other Indians whom we know of in North America; but the most singular thing is their way of expressing affection: sometimes they merely blow into the ear of those whom they wish to salute; at other times they begin by rubbing the chest and arms with their hand, then do the same to the person whom they wish to honor or caress. The men go almost entirely naked, the women are covered only from the waist to the knees. Both have a fearful expression, betokening a ferocity which their conduct does not belie.<sup>1</sup>

Character  
of the  
country.

These savages inhabit a very fine country, and adapted for almost all the most useful productions of nature. The climate is healthy and temperate, the air pure, the sky serene. The cattle mentioned elsewhere, and commonly called Illinois cattle, are very common there, as well as stags and deer. Lions and tigers are seen there, but bears and wolves still more plentifully. The Indians tame these last, by taking them quite small, and training them to hunt like dogs, unless indeed the author of the memoir which I follow, has not taken for wolves, dogs, such as the Canada tribes use, and which have, as I myself remarked, straight ears and a long muzzle, like wolves.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> As to these Indians, see Joutel, p. 84, Morfi (Memorias, Ms.). Espinosa, *El Peregrino Septentrional Atlante*, unfortunately does not give any description of the Indians.

<sup>2</sup> Joutel, p. 128, and Father Anastasius (*Le Clercq*, ii., pp. 371, &c.), are silent as to bears and wolves, lions

and tigers. La Harpe (*Journal Historique*, p. 205) speaks of lions, and describes them a reddish animal of the size of a horse. As to the use of wolves in hunting, Charlevoix seems to have read hastily. Joutel, p. 354. See Charlevoix (*French*), vol. iii., p. 119.