

1685.

They have also baskets made of canes, in which they keep their fruits and other provisions. Their beds, raised three feet from the ground, are made of a frame-work of canes, neatly arranged with mats and skins dressed with the hair on. Both these serve as mattresses and coverlets. The beds are also separated by mats hung as curtains.¹

When the season is come for tilling the ground, sometimes a hundred persons assemble, men and women apart. Thus they labor till they have cultivated a certain portion of ground, the owner of which then regales the laborers, and the rest of the day is spent in dances and diversions. The next day they begin again, and this lasts till all the fields are tilled. The labor is not, however, toilsome: they content themselves with turning over the surface of the ground with a large stick, split² at the end, inserted in another stick that serves as a handle: for these tribes have no iron implements. When all the fields are thus prepared, the men withdraw: sowing the seed, as well as all the indoor-work, being left solely to the women.

These Indians, both men and women, are well-formed, and their features are not naturally disagreeable; but they prick and paint themselves like the Canada tribes. This they fondly regard as a beauty, although it disfigures them greatly in the eyes of Europeans. They are not better dressed than the Clamcoets, except when the north wind blows: for then they cover themselves with buffalo-ropes or well-dressed deer-skins; but they never have any thing on their heads. Their manners are not very different from those of the Louisiana tribes. The women are not very difficult to seduce; but if sur-

¹ Joutel, *Journal Historique*, pp. 217-219; Father Anastasius, in *Le Clercq, Etablissement de la Foi*, ii., p. 320. Cavelier, *Relation du Voyage*, pp. 32-3, mentions that they

made cloth of hair and of feathers.

² This should be "pointed." Joutel, *Journal Historique*, pp. 219-220.