

elders and some women. Although these Merchants, in all the dealings of any extent that they have with savages, care very little about telling them of God and of the Missionary, the visitors all came, nevertheless, to see me, and I welcomed them as heartily as I could. I took them to the chapel, and talked to them as if they understood me well; they were present at mass, and behaved with great modesty, following the example of the *Illinois*—whom they heard me instruct on several occasions, and cause to offer prayers to God. They manifested great joy when I led them to hope that I would go to see them, to give them sense—such is the expression that they use. But, as I am alone, I cannot assist or visit the other villages of the *Illinois*, which are on the banks of the Mississippi river. The *Osages* and the *Missouri* do not appear to be as quick-witted as the *Illinois*; their language does not seem very difficult. The former do not open their lips, and the latter speak still more from the throat than they.

A young *Peouareoua* man—baptized long ago and well instructed, but who compelled me during the previous year to forbid him entrance to my lodging, and to threaten him with expulsion from the church—led his countrymen to believe that his chagrin would induce him to say and do everything that might be asked from him against Christianity. The chief of the *Peouareoua* and of all the jugglers, with some of his relatives,—of the same party, and among the most notable persons of the village,—omitted nothing to embitter his mind against the Neophytes and against the Missionary. “Thou wouldst not believe us,” his relatives said to him; “thou wouldst attach thyself to the Black Gown,