

an earlier period, must have been erroneous; or as Carver is not definite, but says *about* a century ago, might have been one hundred and thirty years, which would take it back to 1636, three years before Nicolet's first visit to that Bay.

And allowing it to be so, as the shortest way to reconcile the discrepancy in dates; yet his reasons for thinking that they came from Spanish America, are too strong to be set aside without positive proof to the contrary:

They are: *First*, their unalienable attachment to the Sioux, notwithstanding their great distance apart, which could have grown out of nothing else than some such favor as reported above to have been conferred.

*Second*: that their dialect is totally different from every Indian nation yet discovered, it being very uncouth, guttural jargon, which none of their neighbors will attempt to learn. They converse with other nations in the Chippewa tongue, which is the prevailing language throughout all the tribes from the Mohawks of Canada to those who inhabit the borders of the Mississippi, and from the Hurons and Illinois, to such as dwell at Green Bay.

*Thirdly*: From their inveterate hatred to the Spaniards. "Some of them informed me," says Carver, "that they made excursions to the south west which took up several moons. An elderly chief more particularly acquainted me that about forty-six winters ago, he marched at the head of fifty warriors towards the south-west for three moons. That during this expedition, whilst they were crossing a plain they discovered a body of men on horse-back who belonged to the black people: for so they called the Spaniards." These Winnebagoes attacked and killed the most of the Spaniards, and took from them eighty horses loaded with silver. This was supposed to have been a caravan conveying silver from the Colorado to Mexico.

The silver they threw away, calling it white stones, and rode the horses home. This tradition of theirs, as to their