

the former part of that compound word, *neekoonts*, meaning river, and *hahtakah*, large. The Sioux called it *Watpa-Tonga*; *watpa*, river and *tonga*, large. The Sauks designated it as *Mecha-Sapo*; the Menomonees, *Mecha-Sepua*; the Kickapoos, *Meché-Sepe*; the Chippewas, *Meze-Zebe*; and the Ottawas, *Missis-Sepi*. In all these slight variations, *mecha*, *meche*, *meze*, and *missis*, all mean the same thing—large or big; and *sapo*, *sepua*, *sepe*, *zebe*, and *sepi*, all mean river.