

we wondered to finde ourselves in a towne where weare great cabbans most covered wth skins and other close matts. They tould us that there weare 7,000 men. This we believed. Those have as many wives as they can keepe. If any one did trespasse upon the other his nose was cutt off, and often the crowne of his head. The maidens have all manner of freedome, but are forced to marry when they come to the age. The more they beare children the more they are respected. I have seene a man having 14 wives. There they have no wood, and make provision of mosse for their firing. This their place is environed wth pearches w^{ch} are a good distance one from an other, that they gett in the valleys where the Buffe used to repaire, uppon w^{ch} they do live. They sow corne, but their harvest is small. The soyle is good, but the cold hinders it, and y^e graine [is] very small. In their countrey are mines of copper, of pewter, and of ledd. There are mountains covered wth a kind of Stone that is transparent and tender, and like to that of Venice. The people stay not there all y^e years; they retire in winter towards the woods of the North, where they kill a quantity of Castors, and I say that there are not so good in the whole world, but not in such a store as the Christinos, but far better.

Wee stayed there 6 weeks, and came back wth a company of people of y^e nation of y^e Sault, y^t came along wth us loaden wth booty. Wee weare 12 days before we could overtake our company that went to the lake. The spring approaches, w^{ch} [is] the fittest time to kill the Oriniack. A wildman and I wth my brother killed that time above 600, besides other beasts. We came to the lake side wth much paines, ffor we sent our wildmen before, and we two weare forced to make cariages 5 days through the woods. After we mett wth a company that did us a great deale of service, ffor they car-ryed what we had, and arrived at the appointed place before 3 dayes ended. Here we made a fort.¹ Att our arrivall we found att least 20 cottages full.

being further south than this, apparently in the neighborhood of the lead mines of Iowa.—ED.

¹ Evidently on Oak point, hemming in Chequamegon bay on the east.