

tude, there are, I should presume, more than 20,000 Indians of the Dahcotah and Cree Nations. If the 3,500 (Ind. Treaties 461.) Indians on the Peninsula of Michigan and in the adjoining states require the attention of a Superintendent, it will not be deemed necessary I hope that any argument should be offered to show that the 48,000 within this country are also entitled to one. Their complaints for some years passed, together with the condition of the Indian Trade, if they could now be exhibited to the public, would illustrate this fact in a striking manner. The unsettled state of these Indians imperiously demands the presence of such an officer. It should be a primary object with the government, whether the tranquility of the Inds. or the interests of the Indian Trade is consulted, to prevail upon them to remain within their country throughout the year. The long voyages which they make to the British Agencies in Canada, and to Detroit and St. Louis are productive of great and increasing evils without any corresponding benefit to them or to the Govt.

Settlements.

Although the settlements are scattered over this territory, yet it may be observed they were all commenced, (excepting two) while the country was under the dominion of France. Many were doubtless made by the Indian Traders, who soon found that the provisions required for their men while employed in the interior could only be obtained from these places. Thus many of the voyageurs, when the term for which they were bound by their engagements had expired, became farmers. Settlements therefore should have been encouraged, as their products would have greatly diminished the expenses of a Trade.

Paruwayteeg, or the Sault de Ste. Marie, is situated north of Detroit which is the seat of government of Michigan, and the distance between them is 400 miles.

Mackinaw Island is 90 miles from the Sault.

Pointe St. Ignace, the site of the Jesuits Establishment in 1678 is 3 miles from Mackinaw.