

them from it. The old men are prudent, sensible, and deliberate; it is seldom that they undertake any unseasonable enterprise. As they receive Strangers very kindly, they are delighted when reciprocal attentions are paid to them. They have so good an opinion of themselves that they regard other Nations as inferior to them. They have made themselves Arbiters for the tribes about the Bay, and for all their neighbors; and they strive to preserve for themselves that reputation in every direction. Their ambition to please everybody has of course caused among them jealousy and divorce; for their Families are scattered to the right and to the left along the Méchéygan [Lake Michigan]. With a view of gaining for themselves special esteem, they make presents of all their possessions, stripping themselves of even necessary articles, in their eager desire to be accounted liberal. Most of the merchandise for which the Outaouas trade with the French is carried among these people.

The Sakis have always been neighbors of the Pouteouatemis, and have even built a Village with them. They separated from each other some years ago, as neither tribe could endure to be subordinate; this feeling is general among all the Savages, and each man is master of his own actions, no one daring to contradict him. These Peoples are not intelligent, and are of brutal nature and unruly disposition; but they have a good physique, and are quite good-looking for Savages; they are thieves and liars, great chatterers, good Hunters, and very poor Canoemen.

The Malhominis are no more than forty in number; they raise a little Indian corn, but live upon game and Sturgeons; they are skillful navigators. If the Sauteurs¹ are adroit in catching the Whitefish at the Sault, the Malhominis are no less so in spearing the Sturgeon in their river. For this purpose they use only small Canoes, very light, in which they stand upright, and in the middle of the current spear the Sturgeon with an iron-pointed pole; only Canoes are to be seen, morning and night. They are good-natured people, not very keen of intel-

¹ Sauteurs (Saulteurs), "the people of the Sault:" the French name for the Ojibwas (Chippewas), given to them because they dwelt at and near Sault Ste. Marie when first encountered by the French.—Ed.