

This is not all; one must run the risk of losing his life at the hands of the Iroquois, who lie in ambush in the defiles; and if one be taken alive, he must make up his mind to be roasted at a slow fire. It is true that the necessary precautions are taken to avoid such a misfortune, and it has rarely happened that our convoys have been defeated.

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V. *Nations inhabiting the country governed by de Lamothe Cadillac.*

As I have described Missilimakinak in the first chapter, it is needless to say more about it. I would merely state that the word Outaouas means in our language "the Nation of the Nez Percez" [pierced noses], because they pierce their noses, to which they attach a small stone well ornamented, which hangs down in the middle of the mouth between the lips. This is a custom among them, and they would not consider themselves properly adorned without this ornament. Some of the elders maintain, however, that it is a preventive against "medicine"—that is to say, the spells that their enemies and other evil-intentioned persons might cast upon them, to poison them or cause their death. This is a further proof that it is an idea of the ancient Jews; for we read in history that one Eleazar delivered people possessed of the devil, in the presence of the Emperor Vespasian, of his son, and of several princes and noblemen of his court. He proceeded as follows: he pierced the nose of the possessed one, and passed through it a ring hollow inside, wherein he placed an herb; and as soon as the devil smelled it, he threw the body of the possessed one upon the ground, and fled, without daring to return to it. The same Eleazer also did this frequently in the name of Solomon; so that these savage nations may well have retained this custom of piercing their noses, and have forgotten the purpose for which it was introduced.

There is a place near Missilimakinak, called Essolon. When I passed there my attention was called to the name, and I inquired of some Savages the reason it had been given to the place; they replied that their Ancestors had given it that name,