

The nation of the Noquets is now degraded; so few remain that it cannot bear a distinctive name, because it is incorporated with many others.<sup>1</sup>

The Malhominy, or Folles Avoines, are so called on account of the river on which their village is situated,<sup>2</sup> which produces a prodigious quantity of wild oats, which they gather and harvest as we do our wheat. They boil it with game or with fat; this food is wholesome. There is no nation in which the men are so well built or have so good figures as in this one. They are not so swarthy as the others, and if they did not grease themselves they would surpass the French in whiteness. The women also are rather pretty, and more gentle than those of the neighboring tribes.

The nation of the Sakis is so called because Saky means "the entrance of the river." This nation is warlike, and harasses the Iroquois; it was formerly numerous, but the Illinois, with whom they had some quarrels of old, partly destroyed them, when they least expected it.

The Puans derive this name from their river, which is very muddy. It is so full of fish of all kinds that it is difficult to understand how it can hold so many. Consequently, during the heat of summer, on account of either the quality of the water or the too great quantity of fish, the water is entirely covered with them; and, as it immediately becomes foul and putrid, it is hardly possible to approach the bank on account of the stench, and the water is consequently very disgusting. It is for this reason that the nation is called that of the Puans, for both in their persons and their habits they are the cleanest among the Savages; and their women are the least dirty, and are exceedingly careful to keep their cabins very clean and tidy—not a very common quality among other Savage women.

The Outagamis (that is, the nation of the Renards) are so called because they are a wily and mischievous nation. They dwell on a very fine river, and in a country that is excellent for

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<sup>1</sup> See p. 117, *note 2, ante*.—Ed.

<sup>2</sup> The Menominee river, which forms part of the boundary-line between Wisconsin and Michigan.—Ed.