

all purposes. This nation is growing powerful, and for that reason is daily becoming insolent. I think that if we had not had the war with the Iroquois on our hands, steps would have been taken to humble the Outagamis; for they have on several occasions insulted and pillaged the French, and otherwise treated them shamefully. They do not war against the Iroquois. On the contrary there is some sort of alliance between them; and it is the policy of that common enemy of all the nations of the New World to keep as a neutral, in the midst of all the other tribes, one that would have caused them much trouble had it declared war against them. This is of great use to the Iroquois, because by means of the fox (Renard) he often eats the hen. When matters are going badly, the Renard intervenes for the purpose of negotiation, and frequently succeeds so well that the Iroquois takes breath in the interval; because there is not a nation that does not consider itself fortunate, and deem it a great honor, to be sought after by an enemy who makes all tremble, so that peace is never refused him when he asks for it. But, during these negotiations, he always bides his time to destroy the nations who, through some untoward fate, are ever stupid enough to remain indolent when their enemy proposes a truce or peace to them; and not even experience can awaken them or arouse them from their supineness. The Renards are very dirty, and great thieves; one even has to watch their feet more than their hands, for they use them very cleverly in stealing. They carry on war against the Sioux and Saulteux, and inflict severe blows upon their enemies. They are so little jealous of their daughters that they do not refuse them to any who ask for them and give them trifling presents.

The post of Chicagou comes next. The name means *Rivière de l'ail* ["Garlic river"], because it produces that plant in very great quantities, wild and without cultivation.¹ The village of the Miamis is there; these are well built people, good warriors, and very active. They are real and true greyhounds. They harass the Iroquois greatly, and always utterly defeat them.

¹This may refer to the wild garlic, or onion (*Allium*); but some writers think that the skunk-cabbage (*Symplocarpus fatidus*) is meant.—Ed.