

and so abundantly that it can hardly be imagined. I think that it could not be believed without being seen; for they are sometimes observed to laugh, sing, and amuse themselves when, at the same time, one would say that their eyes are like gutters filled by a heavy shower; and, as soon as they have wept, they again become as joyful as before, whether their joy be real or false. The chief occasion of their tears is when their enemies have killed some of their people; thereupon, they address themselves to their allies or to the French commandant. Bending their heads they utter horrible yells, and shed a deluge of tears, after which they cease to weep and yell, and their eyes are as dry as if they had not wept. They afterward represent the state of their affairs, so that one might say that they are the same Jews who dwelt on Mount Gerisim, who were called "Mourners," because they had the gift of tears. There are several very rich lead mines in their country.

1718: MEMOIR ON THE SAVAGES OF CANADA AS FAR AS THE
MISSISSIPPI RIVER, DESCRIBING THEIR CUSTOMS AND
TRADE.

[Translated from a MS. in archives of Ministère des Colonies, Paris; pressmark, "Canada, Corresp. gén., vol. 39, c. 11, fol. 354."]

From The portage of Niagara, which is from two and a half to three Leagues Long, but offering a fine road, over which The carts roll two or three times every year; very fine forests and clear enough to allow one to see a person more than Six hundred paces away—all the trees are oaks, and very large. Along this entire road the land is not very good; there are four hills to climb from The place where one lands, which is three Leagues along the river. Above the first hill is a village of the Senontouans, consisting of about ten Cabins. They raise indian corn and beans, peas, Watermelons, and squashes; everything grows very finely there. The Senontouans are of service to the French, and thus earn Money—that is to say, they transport the effects of the French who go into the upper country; some do this for