

brown, and are adorned around the edge, in some cases, with little bells, and in others with ornaments of iron or copper or tin; over these are also worn blankets. Their women are quite pretty, and not at all black. They hunt a great deal in this region, and live in great comfort, as they have abundance of meat and fish, for that river of the renards abounds in fish.

About fifty Leagues from the renards in the Direction of chicagou, are the mascoutins and the quicapoux, who live together on the bank of a river whose name I have forgotten. These two tribes together do not amount to two hundred men, but are brave and warlike. Their Language and customs are nearly The same as those of The Renards, and they have as good Legs; for these nations run down the stag afoot, and even at the present day they use the bow and arrow. The quicapoux and the mascoutins are not Far from chicagou, it may be fifty Leagues distant. When they wish to go to destroy or the St. Joseph River they have to pass by way of chicagou.

The River St. Joseph Is to the South of lake Michignan, otherwise called Lake of the ilinois. Many follow this river to go to le roché, because it Is a fine river, and they thus Avoid The portage des chesne and that of des perche. It is a river at The end of Lake Michignan, and goes to le roché, which Is an jlinois village.¹

The St. Joseph Is a river on which Lived formerly The miamis and the poutouatamis, who had missionaries among them; and it is not so very Long since they Were there. It is the best place that could be found for getting a living and cultivating the soil. There are in this place pheasants, as in France; quails and paroquets;² the finest vines in the World,

¹The St. Joseph river formed, with the Kankakee (which was reached by a portage of three to five miles in length, at the present South Bend, Ind.), a convenient route from Detroit to the Illinois settlements. Of the portage here mentioned, that of des Chesnes ("the oak-trees") was the one from the Chicago river to the Des Plaines—the earliest and best known route between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi; the other, des Perches ("the poles"), was probably that from the Calumet river to the Des Plaines, at the present South Chicago.—Ed.

²The Carolina paroquet, formerly found throughout the Mississippi