

[Part of Allouez's report for this year.]

On the following day, I celebrated holy Mass, at which the French, to the number of eight, paid their Devotions. As the Savages had gone into winter quarters, I found here only one Village of different Nations—Ousaki, Pouteouatami, Outagami, Ovenibigoutz [Winnebago]—about six hundred souls. A league and a half away was another, of a hundred and fifty souls; four leagues distant, one of a hundred souls; and eight leagues from here, on the other side of the Bay, one of about three hundred souls.

All these Nations have their fields of Indian corn, squashes, beans, and tobacco. On this Bay,<sup>1</sup> in a place they call OUESTATINONG, twenty-five leagues away, there is a large Nation named Outagami,<sup>2</sup> and a day's journey from them there are two others, Oumami and Makskouteng.<sup>3</sup> Of all these Peoples, a portion gained a knowledge of our Faith at saint Esprit point, where I instructed them; we shall do so more fully, with Heaven's help.

In the matter of our sustenance, we have had a good deal of trouble. Scarcely have we found material to make our cabin; all that we have had for food has been only Indian corn and acorns; the few fish that are seen here, and that but seldom, are very poor; and the water of this bay and of the rivers is like stagnant ditch-water.

The Savages of this region are more than usually barbarous; they are without ingenuity, and do not know how to make even a bark dish or a ladle; they commonly use shells. They are grasping and avaricious to an extraordinary degree, and sell their little commodities at a high price, because they have only what is barely necessary. The season in which we arrived among them was not favorable for us; they were all in a needy condition, and very little able to give us any assistance, so that we suffered hunger.

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On the 16th of April, I embarked to go and begin the Mission to the Outagamis, a people of considerable note in all these re-

<sup>1</sup> Meaning "In the vicinity of this Bay."—ED.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 39, *ante, note.*—ED.

<sup>3</sup> See p. 42, *ante, note.*—ED.