

On the thirtieth, landing opposite the Village, and leaving our canoe at the water's edge, after walking a league through beautiful Prairies, we perceived the Fort. The Savages, spying us, immediately gave the cry in their Village, hastened to meet us, and accompanied us with honor into the Cabin of the Chief, where refreshments were straightway brought to us, and the feet and legs of the Frenchmen with me were anointed with oil. Afterward a feast was prepared, which was attended with the following ceremonies. When all were seated, and after some had filled a dish with powdered tobacco, an Old Man arose and, turning to me, with both hands full of tobacco which he took from the dish, harangued me as follows: "This is well, black Gown, that thou comest to visit us. Take pity on us; thou art a Manitou; we give thee tobacco to smoke. The Nadouessious and the Iroquois are eating us; take pity on us. We are often ill, our children are dying, we are hungry. Hear me, Manitou; I give thee tobacco to smoke. Let the earth give us corn, and the rivers yield us fish; let not disease kill us any more, or famine treat us any longer so harshly!" At each desire the Old Men who were present uttered a loud "Oh!" in response. I had a horror of this ceremony, and, begging them to hear me, I told them that it was not I to whom their vows must be addressed; that in our necessities I had recourse to Prayer to him who is the only and the true God; that it was in him that they ought to place their trust. I told them that he was the sole Master of all things, as well as of their lives, I being only his servant and envoy; that he was my sovereign Lord, as well as my host's; and that wise men nevertheless willingly honored and listened to the black Gown, as being a person who is heard by the great God and is his Interpreter, his Officer, and his Domestic. They offered us a veritable sacrifice like that which they make to their false Gods.—*Jes. Relations*, liv, 12-16, 127-237.

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the Mascoutens were the same as the Bocoowanaukes mentioned by Strachey; and that the name "Fire Nation" was given them because they used fire in melting copper. See his *Bocoowanaukes* (N. Y., 1901). Lucien Carr thinks that the Mascoutens were a Shawnese tribe; see his "Mascoutins," in *Amer. Antiquarian Soc. Proceedings*, April, 1900.—Ed.