

arous,¹⁷ the surplus of what they bring is for Michilimakinac if they go by the north, or for Détroit if they pass by the south. The gratification for the commandant is paid by Louisiana from the state-treasury; the commandant is sent from New-Orleans.

These are the divisions of the Illinois: the Cahos on the borders of the Mississippi, at the left the Metchi, at six leagues the Kas, a little village inhabited by the French. The Cahos and the Metchi are no more than a village of about four hundred warriors. There are about four hundred warriors at the Kas. These three nations are comprised under the name of Illinois, and furnish in ordinary years a hundred packages in beaver, deer, cats, lynx, foxes, otters, stags and bucks.

There is another post on the river of the Illinois, where a commandant resides in a fort named *Pimiteoui*; the nations who trade there are the *Peorias*,¹⁸ seven hundred men furnish two hundred and fifty packages, of the same quality of peltries, with less beaver and more cats than the preceding post.

Missouri.—In the Missouri at eighty leagues from its discharge into the Mississippi, are the *Osages* and the *Missouri*,

¹⁷ This is a branch of the Illinois tribe that settled near and merged with the Cahokia branch of that tribe. The earliest mission at Cahokia was founded by the Jesuits between 1698 and 1700. It was (about 1702) taken over by the priests of the Séminaire des Missions Etrangères, but again reverted to the Jesuits, who maintained their seat at this village until expelled from Louisiana (1763-64). See note on Pierre Gibault, *post*.—ED.

¹⁸ The time when this fort was established does not yet appear; certainly it must have been in the later years of the French regime. Its last commandant was Sieur Toulon, who by the orders of Neyon de Villiers evacuated it in 1763, and returned with his garrison to Fort Chartres. The fort was located on the west bank of Peoria Lake about a mile and a half above its outlet, on high ground with a beautiful view of the river and lake valley. Probably it was on what is now known as Prospect Heights, above the city of Peoria. The name *Pimiteoui* was the aboriginal name of the Peoria village located near the fort. There was also a considerable French settlement clustered about it.—ED.