

to the Fox-Wisconsin carrying-place (the Portage of today), passing a smaller Winnebago village en route. The valley of the Fox, declares Carver, was the former home of the Outagami and Sauk.

The carrying-place was about a mile and three-quarters in length, and there resided Pinnisance who told our traveller a remarkable story of an Indian who possessed a rattlesnake that he had tamed and worshipped.<sup>95</sup> Carver noted the wild rice spreads and the abundance of wild fowl on the upper Fox, and mentions the fertility and beauty of the country.

Embarking on the Wisconsin (October 8), they arrived the next day at the great town of the Sauk, a large, well-built village of ninety houses consisting of plank with bark covering.<sup>96</sup> About three hundred warriors comprised their war-parties, that frequently made incursions among the Illinois and Pawnee. Carver mentions "mountains" some fifteen miles southward, where lead ore is found—the Blue Mounds and similar lead-bearing hills. The next day they reached the first town of the Outagamie,<sup>97</sup> which was nearly deserted because of the prevalence of an epidemic.

About five miles above the mouth of the Wisconsin, the ruins of another large town were seen; it had been deserted for thirty

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<sup>95</sup> For the origin of this story, and the imposition upon Carver therewith, see Pond's journal, *post*. Pond likewise gives a short biographical sketch of this early inhabitant of the portage, whom he calls "Old Pinnashon." Gorrell gave him a good character in 1763—*Wis. Hist. Colls.*, i, pp. 37, 41; and Grignon (*Id.*, iii, pp. 261-263) relates some of his later adventures.—Ed.

<sup>96</sup> This was the village near the modern site of Prairie du Sac. This large town, whose fine appearance is described by both Carver and Pond, was probably built in the decade 1740-50; see *Wis. Hist. Soc. Proc.*, 1907, p. 181. It continued to be occupied until the close of the Revolution, when it was abandoned from fear of the Chippewa, and the inhabitants removed to the Mississippi; see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xii, p. 80.—Ed.

<sup>97</sup> The Outagami (Fox) village was probably near Muscodia; see *Id.*, vi, p. 225, and the location given in Pond's journal, *post*.—Ed.