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## HISTORY.

## CARVER'S TRAVELS.

(Continued.)

THE Green Bay or Bay of Puants is one of those places to which the French have given nicknames; it is termed by the inhabitants of its coast, the Mononomie Bay; but why the French have denominated it the Puant, or Stinking Bay, I know not. The reason they themselves give for it is, that it was not with a view to mislead strangers, but that by adopting this method they could converse with each other concerning the Indians, in their presence, without being understood by them. For it was remarked by the persons who first traded among them, that when they were speaking to each other about them, and mentioned their proper name, they instantly grew suspicious, and concluded that their visitors were either speaking ill of them, or plotting their destruction. To remedy this they gave them some other name. The only bad consequence arising from the practice then introduced is, that English and French geographers, in their plans of interior parts of America, give different names to the same people, and thereby perplex those who have occasion to refer to them.

Lake Michigan, of which the Green Bay is a part, is divided on the North-East from Lake Huron by the Straights of Michillimackinac; and is situated between forty-two and forty-six degrees of north latitude, & between eighty-four and eighty-seven degrees of West longitude. Its greatest length is two hundred and eighty miles, its breadth about forty, and its circumference nearly six hundred. There is a remarkable string of small islands, beginning over against Aikin's farm, and running about 30 miles into the lake. These are called the Beaver Islands. Their situation is very pleasant, but the soil is bare. However they afford a beautiful prospect.

On the North-West parts of this lake the waters branch out into two bays: that which lies towards the North is the Bay of Noquets, and the other the Green Bay just described.

The waters of this, as well as the

other great lakes, are clear and wholesome, and of sufficient depth for the navigation of large ships. Half the space of the country that lies to the East, and extends to Lake Huron, belongs to the Ottowaw Indians. The line that divides their territories from the Chipeways runs nearly North and South, and reaches almost from the Southern extremity of this lake, across the high lands, to Michillimackinac, through the centre of which it passes. So that when these two tribes happen to meet at the factory, they each encamp on their own dominions, at a few yards distance from the Rockade.

The country adjacent, either to the East or West side of this lake, is composed but of an indifferent soil, except where small brooks or rivers empty themselves into it; on the banks of these it is extremely fertile. Near the borders of the lake grow a great number of sand cherries, which are not less remarkable for their manner of growth, than for their exquisite flavour. They grow upon a small shrub not more than four feet high, the boughs of which are so loaded that they grow in clusters on the sand. As they grow only on the sand, the warmth of which probably contributes to bring them to such perfection, they are called by the French cherries de sable, or sand cherries. The size of them does exceed that of a small musket ball, but they are reckoned superior to any sort for the purpose of steeping in spirits. There also grow around the lake, gooseberries, black currants, and an abundance of juniper, bearing great quantities of berries of the finest sort.

Sumack likewise grows here in great plenty; the leaf of which, gathered at Michaelmas, when it turns red, is much esteemed by the natives. They mix about an equal quantity of it with their tobacco, which causes it to smoke pleasantly. Near this lake, and indeed about all the great lakes, is found a willow, termed by the French bois rouge, in English red wood. Its bark, when only of one year's growth, is of a fine scarlet colour and appears very beautiful; but as it grows older it changes into a mixture of grey and red. The stalks of this shrub grow many of them together, and rise to

the height of six or eight feet, the largest not exceeding an inch diameter. The bark being scraped from the sticks, and dried and powdered, is also mixed by the Indians with their tobacco, and is held by them in the highest estimation for their winter smoking. A weed that grows near the great lakes, in rocky places, they use in the summer season. It is called by the Indians Segockimac, and creeps like a vine on the ground, sometimes extending to eight or ten feet, and bearing a leaf about the size of a silver penny, nearly round; it is of the substance and colour of the laurel, and is, like the tree it resembles, an evergreen. These leaves, dried and powdered they likewise mix with their tobacco; and, as said before, smoke it only during the summer. By these three succedaneums the pipes of the Indians are well supplied through every season of the year; and, as they are great smokers, they are very careful in properly gathering and preparing them.

On the 20th of September I left the Green Bay, and proceeded up Fox River, still in company with the traders and some Indians. On the 25th I arrived at the great town of the Winnebagoes, situated on a small island, just as you enter the east End of Lake Winnebago. Here the queen, who presided over this tribe instead of a Sachem, received me with great civility, and entertained me in a very distinguished manner, during the four days I continued with her.

The day after my arrival I held a council with the chiefs, of whom I asked permission to pass through their country, in my way to more remote nations, on business of importance. This was readily granted me, the request being esteemed by them as a great compliment paid to their tribe. The queen sat in the council, but only asked a few questions, or gave some trifling directions in matters relative to the state; for women are never allowed to sit in their councils, except they happen to be invested with the supreme authority, and then it is not customary for them to make any formal speeches, as the chiefs do. She was a very ancient woman, small in stature, and not much distinguished by her dress