

upon Thread, or they make of them Belts as broad as a Hand or broader, which they hang over their Necks and on their Bodies; they have also several Holes in their Ears, and there they hang some; and they value these little Bones as highly as many Christians do Gold, Silver and Pearls, but they have no Value for our Money and esteem it no better than Iron. * * * * They place their Dead upright in Holes, and do not lay them down, and then throw on the Grave some Trees and Wood, or they enclose them with Palisades. They have their set times for going to catch Fish, Bears, Panthers, Beavers and Eels; in the Spring they catch vast quantities of Shad and Lampreys which are very large here—they lay them on the Bark of Trees in the Sun, and dry them very hard, and then put them in a Bag which they make of wild Hemp, and keep them till Winter when their Corn is ripe; to keep them from the Air, they dig a deep Hole and preserve them therein the whole Winter. They can make Nets and Seines in their Way, and when they want to fish with seines ten or twelve men will go together and help each other, all of whom own the Seines.

They are entire Strangers to all Religion, but they have a *Tharonkijouagon*, (which others also call *Athzoockkuatorialho*) i.e. a *Genius* which they put in the place of God, but they do not worship or present Offerings to him: they worship and present Offerings to the Devil whom they call *Otskon* or *Aireskuoni*. * * * They call us *Assygreoni*, that is Cloth-Makers, or *Charistooni*, that is Iron-Workers, because our People first brought Cloth and Iron among them. * * * * *

The *Mohawk* Indians are divided into three Tribes, which are called *Ochkari*, *Anoware*, *Oknaho*, that is, the *Bear*, the *Tortoise* and the *Wolf*; of these the *Tortoise* is the greatest and principal, and boast that they are the oldest descendants of the woman beforementioned; (a woman who fell from heaven and was carried by a Tortoise, while she paddled in the water with her hands and raked up earth to form the dry land), these have made a Fort of Palisades, and call their Castle *Asserue*. Those of the *Bear* are the next to these, and their Castle is by them called *Banagiro*; the last were taken from them and their Castle is called *Thenondiogo*. Each of these Tribes carries the Beast after which it is called (as the Arms in its Banner) when it goes to War against its Enemies, and this is done as well for the Terror of its Enemies as for a Declaration of its own Bravery. * * * * But although they are so cruel, and have no Laws or Punishments, yet there are not half so many Villaines or Murders committed amongst them as amongst Christians, so that I sometimes think with astonishment upon the Murders committed in the Netherlands, notwithstanding their severe Laws and heavy Penalties. These Indians though they live without Laws or fear of Punishment, do not kill People unless they are in a great Passion, or fighting, wherefore we go along with them, or meet them in the Woods without Fear.

JOHANNES MEGAPOLENSIS.

Hazard's Historical Collection of State Papers, Philadelphia, 1792, p. 517
et seq.

TRIBAL NAMES.

The number of synonyms by which many Indian tribes were known, makes it difficult sometimes for the reader to understand. Sometimes the difference consists merely in the spelling, but not seldom, totally different words are employed, and with a wholly different meaning. There are various reasons for these divergencies—the pronunciation of the same name may not strike all foreign ears