

teurs or Sauteurs, living near Sault Ste. Marie, were non-cultivators.¹ The progress of the Montagnais is shown in the fact that, in 1634, they were raising sufficient quantities of "cereals and Indian corn" to trade with other nations.²

The Hurons, who are related racially to the Iroquois, cultivated corn on a large scale and, besides supplying their own wants, exchanged it for furs and other commodities with neighbouring peoples. The Huron country, in fact, was said to be "the granary of most of the Algonkins."³ The Petuns, or Tionnontati (also Iroquois) and the Cheveux Rélevés, or Ottawas, were both found by Champlain cultivating corn and tobacco.⁴

All the nations encountered on the shores of Lake Michigan possessed fields of corn, squashes, beans, and tobacco.⁵ Charlevoix remarks that "the Outaouais," who had retired to an island near the entrance to the lake, "sow here Maiz, and they have learnt this good custom from the Hurons, with whom they have lived a long time in these parts."⁶ This was the last point at which such provisions could be obtained in journeying to the country of the Crees, Assiniboins, Sioux, and others to the north and west.⁷

COMMUNAL CUSTOMS.

The fields were evidently grouped more or less closely about the villages, and varied from ten or twenty to several hundred acres, according to the size of the community. Portions of these are said to have been at times reserved for general purposes, such as the provision of food for councils and ceremonies.

Sagard remarks, regarding the Hurons, that "their custom is that each household lives upon what it obtains from fishing, hunting, and planting, having as much ground as may be necessary,

¹ Hennepin, *A New Discovery*, R. G. Thwaites ed., vol. I, p. 117.

² *Jesuit Relations*, R. G. Thwaites ed.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. VIII, p. 115.

⁴ Champlain, *Voyages*, vol. I, p. 303.

⁵ *Jesuit Relations*, R. G. Thwaites ed., vol. LIV, p. 207.

⁶ Charlevoix, *A Voyage to North America*, vol. II, p. 36.

⁷ Henry, Alex., *Travels and Adventures in Canada (1760-1776)*, pp. 48, 49.