

man; but he prided himself too much on these qualities, and could not adapt himself to circumstances. He had campaigned in Hungary with great distinction; but in Canada he had less opportunity to display his good qualities than occasion to show his defects, and in the brief period of his rule in the colony, they subjected him to many annoyances.¹

1660.

Father le Moyne had set out when the Baron d'Avau-gour reached Quebec; and while that missionary was on his way to endeavor to reconcile the Iroquois and the French, Fathers Dreuilletes and Dablon were endeavoring to penetrate to the Northern Ocean, by ascending the Saguenay.² Early in July, two months after they set out, they found themselves at the head-waters of the Nekouba river,³ which empties into Lake St. Jean, and there experienced excessive heat, which they ascribed in part to the altitude of the land, having, according to their account, ascended constantly for a hundred leagues.⁴

Northward
journey of
the mis-
sionaries.

Lake St. Jean is the real source of the Saguenay, and of several other rivers; it is twenty leagues in circumference, and oval in form. The many isles that stud its bosom make most agreeable points in the landscape, and its shores are lined with noble trees; but this part would not perhaps be found so charming, if you were not compelled, before reaching it, to traverse the most fearful deserts. This is a reflection that travellers should make, and which would often save them from exaggerations which affect their credit.⁵

Description
of Lake
St. John.

Father Dablon mentions, in his journal, a very singular disease, but which they assured him was quite common in these northern countries. A person suddenly becomes a

¹ For some of his petty troubles, see Canada Doc., II., i., pp. 375-398.

² Lalemant, Journal, May 11; Rel. de la N. F., 1661, p. 13. They went to establish the mission of St. Francis Xavier of the Kiristinons (Crees).

³ Nekouba was the place where a kind of fair was held. Dablon gives it as 49° 20' N., 305° 10' W.: Relation de la N. F., 1661, p. 17.

⁴ The Rel. for 1661, p. 17, says 80.

⁵ Relation de la N. F., 1661, p. 14.