

it comes from their country);¹⁰ Monsieur de Montmagny gave the large Island which lies at the mouth of this river the name "saint Ignace." Lake saint Pierre begins to close at this place, as the river grows narrower—not that it is not still fully a quarter of a league or thereabout in width, as far as sault saint Louys,¹¹ or as the river des Prairies; here it forms, as it were, another lake by the [243 i.e., 239] meeting of three rivers, whose waters being united form another little sea dotted with Islands. The land in this region is high; hence these three rivers make three rapids, as we call them here,—that is to say, encountering a sloping and uneven bottom or bed, they flow with great force and rapidity. Barks can approach these rapids, but they cannot pass over them,—not even shallows. Of all the Islands we saw there, there were only two or three worthy of notice, the rest being small,—and, in my opinion, are flooded in the Spring. This is the way these Islands are divided: the great river St. Lawrence bathes the lands of one of our Gentlemen on the South;¹² passing to the North, it makes two Islands,—one, perhaps, a league and a half long, but very narrow; the other the great Island called Mont-Real. This Island appears to be divided in the midst by a double mountain which seems to cross it. In the vicinity of these mountains is the sault saint Louys, in the saint Lawrence river. I learn that the Savages of the Island in earlier times cleared the land, and had a settlement near this mountain; [244 i.e., 240] but they abandoned it, as they were too often molested by their enemies. They still call this place "the Island where there was a village."¹³ On the Northern shore of the Island of Mont Real flows the River des Prais-