

these creatures withdraw from them. I will not decide the truth of this.

They related that these same Tribes have a kind of war with certain aquatic animals larger and lighter in running than the Moose. The young men go into the water to tease these animals, which do not fail immediately to gain the land and pursue their assailants. The latter finding themselves too closely followed, throw some piece of leather, as the shoes of the savages, to these animals, which stop and amuse themselves therewith, while the hunters gain the advance, and as often as they see themselves followed too closely they do the same that they did at first, until they have arrived at a fort or ambush of a band of their people, who, surrounding the beasts, make themselves at last their masters. These are the most important things we have learned in these regions.

Many of our Frenchmen who have been here have, in the past, made journeys in this country of the Neutral Nation for the sake of reaping [60] profit and advantage from furs and other little wares that one might look for. But we have no knowledge of any one who has gone there for the purpose of preaching the Gospel, except the Reverend Father Joseph de la Roche Daillon, a Recollect,¹⁵ who in 1626 made a journey thither, and spent the winter there. But the Frenchmen who were then here, having learned the evil treatment that he had received there, fearing lest matters should go to the extreme, went for him, and brought him back in the Spring of the following year. The zeal which led the aforesaid Father to make this journey, as soon as he had set foot in the Huron country, not having permitted him to