

the Hiroquois; twelve more leagues from that River to Montreal. So that, from the entrance of the great river and Gulf of Saint Lawrence to that Island, they count nearly two [225 i.e., 125] hundred leagues; and the whole of that great stretch of water is navigable,—in part by great Ships, and in part by Barks.

The Island of Montreal has a circumference of about twenty leagues.⁹ It is bathed on one side by the great river Saint Lawrence, and on the other by the river des Prairies. These two great rivers unite and form, as it were, two lakes or large ponds. At each end of this Island, there are many smaller Islands that are very pleasant. The finest, after the Island of Montreal, is the Isle of JESUS. Another small river flows from inland on the North side, called by the French the river of the Assumption and by the Savages Outaragauesipi, which falls into that wide expanse of water which lies at the lower point of Montreal. The whole of these waters, uniting and flowing together, take the name of the great river Saint Lawrence. Fifteen leagues below,—quite near the mouth of the river of the Hiroquois, which comes from the South,—the great river again widens and expands, and forms the lake that we call lake Saint Pierre, which may be four or five leagues wide, and seven or eight long, and is studded with a number of [126] beautiful Islands. It then narrows on both sides, resuming once more the name of river Saint Lawrence, about two leagues above the settlement and the river of the three Rivers.

But, to return to our Island, I may say, in passing, that the aspect of a fine mountain which stands there has given it the name of Montreal or Mont-royal.

Jacques Cartier, the first of our French who dis-