

way, and passes thirty-five days in the woods, without a robe and without clothing; having only a little piece of the bark of a tree, with which to hide herself from her own eyes. She finds no other hosteleries than currant bushes and some small wild fruits, or some roots. She crossed the smaller rivers by swimming; when it was necessary to cross the great stream, she gathered pieces of wood, which she attached and bound [53] stoutly with the bark of a tree which the Savages use for making cords. Finding herself in a safer place, she walked along the banks of the great stream, without well knowing whither she went, for never had she approached any of the French settlements, nor, perhaps, had she ever seen any Frenchman,—she only knew that people came to see them by water; so that she had no other guide than the current of that great river. The mosquitoes,—that is to say, the gnats,—the flies, and the wasps were devouring her; she could not defend herself from them on account of her nakedness. At last, having found a wretched hatchet, she built her a canoe of bark, in order to reach the current of the water, and to look from side to side, if she might not see some houses. I leave you to think in what anxiety she might be, having no knowledge of the place which she sought, and not knowing where the great stream which guided her was likely to end. It is so broad in several places, it makes so great spaces or expanses of water, that it is difficult, from the middle of its bed, to see a house located on its shores. Finally, having [54] traversed lake St. Pierre, which is near Three Rivers, she perceives a canoe of Hurons, who were going fishing. She straightway rushes into the woods, unable to recognize