

arrived, most of ours weare allready in their cottages. In 3 days' time there arrived eighten severall nations, and came privatly, to have done the sooner. As we became to the number of 500, we held a councell. Then the shouts and cryes, and the encouragements weare proclaimed, that a fort should be builded. They went about the worke and made a large fort. It was about 603 score paces in lenght and 600 in breadth, so that it was a square. There we had a brooke that came from the lake and emptied itself in those medows, wth had more than four leagues in lenght. Our fort might be seene afar off, and on y^e side most deligtfull, for the great many stagges that took the boldnesse to be carried by quarters where att other times they made good cheare.

In two dayes this was finished. Soone 30 young men of y^e nation of the beefe arrived there, having nothing but bows and arrows, wth very short garments, to be the nimbler in chasing the stagges. The Iron of their arrows were of staggs' pointed horens very neatly. They were all proper men, and dressed wth paint. They weare the discoverers and y^e foreguard. We kept a round place in y^e midle of our Cabban and covered it wth long poles wth skins over them, that we might have a shelter to keepe us from y^e snow. The cottages weare all in good order; in each 10, twelve companies or families. That company was brought to that place where there was wood layd for the fires. The snow was taken away, and the earth covered wth deale tree bows [pine boughs]. Severall kettles weare brought there full of meate. They rested and eat above 5 houres wthout speaking one to another. The considerabest of our companyes went and made speeches to them. After one takes his bow and shoots an arrow, and then cryes aloud, there speaks some few words, saying that they weare to lett them know the Elders of their village weare to come the morrow to renew the friendship and to make it wth y^e ffrench, and that a great many of their yong people came and brought them some part of their wayes to take their advice, ffor they had a minde to goe against y^e Christinos, who weare ready for them, and they in like manner to save their wives &