

also a rock on the south side, and a fine meadow on the north, near three fine basins or coves of still water—is the Rivière Noire [Black river], called Chabadeba by the Nadouesioux, which is of inconsiderable size and whose mouth is bordered by alder bushes on both sides. About thirty leagues, ascending always in the same direction, one comes to the Rivière des Boeufs [Buffalo river] which is as wide at its mouth as that of the Isolinois. It is called by that name owing to the great number of those animals found there; it is followed from ten to twelve leagues, the water being smooth and without rapids, bordered by mountains which widen out from time to time, forming meadows. There are several islands at its mouth, which is bordered by woods on both sides. Thirty-eight or forty leagues above is the river by which Sieur Du Luth¹ descended to the Mississippi. For three years he remained, contrary to orders, with a band of twenty coureurs de bois, in the Lake Superior country; he had conducted himself boldly there, publicly announcing everywhere that at the head of those brave men he feared not the Grand Provost, and would obtain by force the granting of an amnesty in his favor. The coureurs de bois, whom he first caused to throw off the mask, went to and returned from the settlements several times, loaded with goods and furs; during that period they exhausted the supply of pelts in the Lake Superior country, besieging it from all sides; and this year they prevented the Outaouacs from going down to Montreal.

At that time, and while he was in the Lake Superior country, the Nadouesioux, induced by presents given them by the late Sieur Randin on behalf of Monsieur the comte de Frontenac, and the Sauteurs,—the Savages who bring most furs to Montreal, and who live in the Lake Superior country,—

¹Daniel Greysolon du Luth (Lhut) was especially prominent among Northwestern explorers. An officer in the army of France, he came to Canada about 1676; two years later, he conducted a French expedition into the Sioux country, of which he took formal possession (1679) for France. He spent nearly ten years in explorations (mainly beyond Lake Superior) and fur-trading; he was for a time commandant of the Northwest. In 1689, he had returned to the St. Lawrence; he died in 1710.—Ed.