

wishing to obey the repeated commands of the said monsieur the Count, were negotiating a peace to unite the nation of the Sauteurs with the French, and to go and trade in the country of the Nadouesioux, distant about sixty leagues to the west of Lake Superior. Du Luth, to cover his desertion, seized this opportunity to give it some color; and with two of his deserters passed himself off as an envoy of Monsieur the Count and as the bearer of his commands to negotiate such peace, while his comrades negotiated much better the trade in beaver-skins. Many interviews took place with the Nadouesioux; and, as he had no interpreter, he enticed away one of my men, named Faffart, who was then a soldier at Fort Frontenac. Finally,—as the Sauteurs had come among and returned from the Nadouesioux several times, and the Nadouesioux had done the same as regards the Sauteurs,—seeing that he had nothing to fear, and that he could thereby greatly increase the number of his beaver-skins, he sent Faffart by land with some Nadouesioux and Sauteurs who were going back together. On his return, that young man told him of the abundance of beaver-skins that he could obtain in that quarter; he thereupon resolved to try to go there himself. Accordingly, guided by a Sauteur, a Nadouesioux and four Frenchmen, he ascended the river Nemitsakouat¹—whence, after a short portage, he descended into this one, wherein he says he passed forty leagues of rapids. Then, finding that the Nadouesioux were lower down with my people and the Father,²—who had returned

¹ Apparently referring to the Bois Brulé river, which empties into Lake Superior near its western end; the river "full of rapids" was probably the St. Croix.—Ed.

² An allusion to Father Louis Hennepin, a Récollet priest who came to Canada at the same time with La Salle (1675). Three years later, he joined that explorer, and accompanied him as far as his Illinois fort. Then Hennepin, in company with a Frenchman named Michel Accault, continued his travels by ascending the Mississippi as far as St. Anthony's Falls, visiting the tribes of that region. Returning to Quebec in 1681, Hennepin soon afterward went to France, where he wrote his *Description de la Louisiane* (Paris, 1682)—an account of his travels in America which attained great popularity in Europe, and made known La Salle's discoveries. It was translated and published, with extensive historical and bibliographical annotations, by John G. Shea (New York, 1880).—Ed.