

from the village of the Nadouesioux, whither they had already been,—he went to meet them. He returned to the village, whence they all came down together, reascended the river Ouiconsing, and thence returned to Montreal as boldly as he had left it—going so far as to insult the commissaries and the representative of the Procurator-general (now the Procurator-general) named d’Auteuil. Monsieur the Count de Frontenac had him arrested and guarded, to keep him a prisoner in the castle of Quebec—intending to send him to France on charges instituted by Monsieur the Intendant,¹ unless the amnesty granted to the coureurs de bois allows of his being set at liberty.

To know who the said Du Luth is, you have only to inquire of Monsieur Daléra. Nevertheless he claims to have made a great discovery, and asks for that country as an appendage of the Islinois; but it is somewhat of a joke that he should expect to be rewarded for his rebellion. In the second place, there are only three routes to go there: one by Lake Superior, another by the bay of the Puans, the third by the Islinois and through the lands under my jurisdiction. The two former are suspicious; and it would not be necessary to open the third, to my detriment, as he has incurred no expense and has obtained great gains without any risk, while I have undergone great fatigues and dangers and suffered much loss. By the Islinois route there is a detour of three hundred leagues for him. Moreover, the country of the Nadouesioux is not a country that he has discovered. It has been known for a long time, and Reverend Father Hennepin and Michel Accault went there before he did. Even the first of his fellow-deserters who went there was one of my soldiers, whom he enticed away from me. Moreover, that country is uninhabitable, but little suited for cultivation, containing only swamps of wild oats, on which those peoples live; and no advantage can be derived from that discovery, whether it be attributed to my people or to Du Luth, because the rivers are not navigable. But as the King has granted us the trade in buffalo-hides, it would be ruined by

²The intendant of New France at that time was Jacques de Meulles who held the office from 1675 to September, 1682.—ED.