

made Us run four or five Leagues as fast as we could. They were greatly surprised on seeing 55 cabins on the other side of a very wide and rapid River full of floating ice. The son of Nontagarouche, the war-Chief of the Lake of two Mountains told me that we must All swim across. I replied that this was imprudent And that it was Impossible to cross such a River while the cold was so great; That Many of the French and even of their own People might be unable to swim and moreover that they would wet their arms and ammunition; That as only 60 men of ours, both French and Savages, had arrived, for All Their people were scattered on all sides thinking they would find only these four cabins whose tracks we had followed, it would be more advisable (as we had not yet been discovered) to reassemble and go higher up where we would construct Rafts at the most suitable point for crossing, And then we should be in a position to attack the Enemy with our arms in our hands; While, by following his Advice, the Enemies would be able to kill us as fast as we Landed, even supposing that we should be able to cross. He replied that I was not a man. I could not, Monsieur, restrain my anger nor help saying to Him: "Dog If thou art so brave, swim over and let us See what Thou wilt do." He did not answer me. I requested him to send some of his People to meet Those who were left behind. All was in vain. He left me with several French who were with Me and he took away his band consisting of about 40 men. When we had marched nearly a league we heard Death-cries and we saw one of our Savages who made signs to us that our People were fighting. We ran toward this man as fast as we could and he told us that one of our French was wounded. I followed the tracks of my people to gather them together. I found several who were crossing the River at its greatest width by means of a jam of drift-wood and of two large logs that the Renards had arranged to enable them to cross and re-cross the River when they went to hunt. We passed over the River like the others and went to the Cabins where we found Nobody as The Enemy had withdrawn to place their women and Children in safety.