

winter, very little snow, the beasts winter in the fields and feed there. There are already about two hundred habitants, who have abundant provisions and cattle, and who furnish flour to the different posts of the upper countries. The fort is on the border of the river that separates Lake Erie from Lake Huron where there is only a gentle slope that forms a slight current. At twenty leagues from Lake Huron and six from Lake Erie, the river of Detroit is twelve to fifteen arpents wide, all the waters of the upper lakes, Michigan and of Lake Huron pass there, and go to discharge themselves into Lake Erie.

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less was chosen to go to France to solicit aid for New France, then in its extremities. The court granted him promotion to the rank of colonel, and the cross of St. Louis, but would send no substantial assistance to Montcalm. Bougainville returned to Quebec in April, 1759, bringing news of the approach of the English fleet. He was one of the most efficient defenders of Quebec, also was valiant in the 1760 campaign against Amherst, finally being the agent to arrange the terms of capitulation. Returning to France in 1761, the next year finds him winning laurels on the Rhine, under Choiseul Stainville. In 1763 he exchanged his military title for that of captain in the navy, and made a settlement on the Isles Malouines (Falkland), in South America. In 1766 he was sent to transfer these islands to Spain, and with two ships of war made a voyage of circumnavigation of the globe, that ended in 1769. During the American Revolution he aided the patriots, and for his action in the fleet of De Grasse, in Chesapeake Bay (1781), he received the thanks of Washington and Rochambeau. In 1790, after attaining the rank of vice-admiral, he retired from the navy. Arrested during the Reign of Terror, he lived to become member of the Institute (1796), senator, and count of the empire. The Americans also elected him to the order of Cincinnati, and to the Academy of Science. He died in September, 1811.

Bougainville's observations on Canadian conditions were acute, and marked by much practical judgment. This memoir, from which we publish those extracts relating to the upper posts, was written for Mme. Hérault de Séchelles, the patroness of his family, to whom it was sent June 30, 1757. Although Bougainville had no opportunity of himself visiting the upper country, he nevertheless obtained his information at first hand from Canadian officers who knew the region well.—Ed.