

*ambault* Collections, in the National Library of Paris.\* His narrative requires close scrutiny, especially in those particulars in which he was neither actor nor eye-witness. He belonged to that class of writers, which is said to speak the truth by accident and to lie by inclination. La Salle calls him a great exaggerator, who wrote more in conformity with his wishes than his knowledge.†

The expedition sent forward from Fort Frontenac, was under the immediate charge of the Sieur de la Motte; who was accompanied by Hennepin and sixteen men. They embarked on the eighteenth of November, 1678, in the brigantine before mentioned.‡

The autumnal gales were then sweeping over the lake, and the cautious navigators, fearing to be driven on the south shore, avoided the usual course, and coasted timidly under shelter of the Canadian headlands. Having advanced as far west as the site of Toronto, they sought refuge from a storm in the mouth of the river Humber. Grounding three times at the entrance, they were forced to throw their ballast overboard and to land fourteen of their crew, before the vessel could be made to float. The inhabitants of an Iroquois village near by, called *Tai-ai-a-gon*, were greatly surprised at their strange visitors, and generously supplied them with provisions in their extremity. The vessel narrowly escaped being frozen in for the winter, and was only released by being cut out with axes.¶

On the fifth of December the wind becoming favorable, they left for the south side of the lake, riding out a boisterous night about twelve miles from the mouth of the Niagara. On the sixth of December, St. Nicholas' day, they entered what Hennepin calls "the beautiful river Niagara, into which no bark similar to ours had ever sailed."\*\* Religion and commerce had joined

\* Compare Hennepin, *I. a.*, pp. 41-73, with Margry, *Découv.*, vol. i., pp. 441-451.

† Margry, *Découv.*, vol. ii., p. 259.

‡ Hennepin, *I. a.*, p. 20. *Ib.* p. 21.

¶ Le Clerq, *Etab. de la Foi*, vol. ii., p. 141.

\*\* Hennepin, *N. D.*, pp. 74, 75.