

thousand paces. Vessels could pass up the river only at the mercy of the cannon on this island, and we deemed the location the most advantageous, not only on account of its situation and good soil, but also on account of the intercourse which we proposed with the savages of these coasts and of the interior, as we should be in the midst of them. We hoped to pacify them in the course of time, and put an end to the wars which they carry on with one another, so as to derive service from them in the future, and convert them to the Christian faith. This place was named by *Sieur de Monts* the Island of *St. Croix*¹. Farther on there is a great bay, in which are two islands, one high and the other flat; also three rivers, two of moderate size, one extending towards the east, the other towards the north, and the third, of large size, towards the west. The latter is that of the *Etechemins*, of which we spoke before. Two leagues up this there is a waterfall, around which the savages carry their canoes, some five hundred paces by land, and then re-enter the river. Passing afterwards from the river a short distance overland, one reaches the rivers *Norumbegue* and *St. John*. But the falls are impassable for vessels, as there are only rocks and but four or five feet of water². . . . Not finding any more suitable place than this island, we commenced making a barricade on a little islet a short distance from the main island, which served as a station for placing our cannon. All worked so energetically that in a little while it was put in a state of defence, although the mosquitoes (which are little flies) annoyed us excessively in our work, for there were several of our men whose faces were so swollen by their bites that they could scarcely see. The barricade being finished, *Sieur de Monts* sent his barque to notify the rest of our party, who were with our vessel in the Bay of *St. Mary*, to come to *St. Croix*. . . .

Some days after, our vessels having arrived and anchored, all disembarked. Then, without losing time, *Sieur de Monts* proceeded to employ the workmen in building houses for our abode, and allowed me to determine the arrangement of our settlement. . . . Then all set to work to clear up the island, to go to the woods, to make the frame-work, to carry earth and other things necessary for the buildings. . . . On the 2nd of October . . . each had finished his

¹ The Holy Cross, *Sainte Croix*. From the fact that the location of the island on which the expedition wintered has been disputed we give Champlain's description in full. It is now called *Dochet Island*.

² The description of the environs of the Island of *St. Croix*, given in the text, is entirely accurate. Some distance above, and in view from the island, is the fork, as it is called. Here is a meeting of the waters of *Waweig Creek* from the east, *Oak Bay* from the north, and the *St. Croix* from the west. These are the three rivers mentioned by Champlain, *Oak Bay* being considered as one of them, in which may be seen the two islands mentioned in the text, one high and the other low. A little above *Calais* is the waterfall, around which the Indians carried their bark canoes, when on their journey up the river through the *Chiputnaticook Lakes*, from which by *Eel River* they reached the *St. John* on the east; or on the west, passing through the *Mattawamkeag*, they reached the *Norumbegue*, or *Penobscot River*.