

boats which are used are of birch-bark and very light, so that in difficult places one of these boats is easily carried by two men, one at each end. On the 16th of December we arrived at Fort Frontenac, which is situated upon a lake one hundred leagues in length, by twenty-five at its greatest width. The air is quite temperate, the latitude being 43 degrees. There are some French plantations, a house of Recollet friars, and, near by, an Iroquois village.

M. de La Salle, who had sent M. de La Motte to Niagara in command of several Frenchmen, for the purpose of building a house there, and of finding a place above the Falls suitable for the construction of a vessel, learned that La Motte had already been absent a long time. Accordingly M. de La Salle embarked with twelve men in a vessel of twenty tons, to traverse the lake. On the 24th, M. de La Salle having ordered the pilot to coast along the south shore of the lake, the said pilot neglected this order during the night, so that we all came near perishing upon a reef of rocks opposite the Isle de Quinté, where the Sulpician fathers have their mission. And as we were about to sink, the sea being very high, M. de La Salle awoke, and, seeing the danger, managed to save the ship. On the 25th, the wind becoming somewhat more favorable,

December,
1678.



*Fort
Frontenac.*

*La Salle
saves the
ship.*

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