

Superior, or upper, for that the wildmen hold it to be longer and broader, besides a great many islands, which make appear in a bigger extent. This rapid was formerly the dwelling²³ of those with whom we were, and consequently we must not ask them if they knew where they have layed. We made cottages at our advantages, and found the truth of what those men had often said, that if once we could come to that place, we should make good cheer of a fish that they call Assickmack, which signifieth a white fish. The beare, the castors and the oriniack shewed themselves often, but to their cost; indeed it was to us like a terrestriall paradise But the season was far spent, and use diligence and leave that place so wished, while we shall bewaile, to the coursed Iroquoits.²⁴ What hath that poore nation done to thee, and being so far from thy country? Yett if they had the same liberty that in former dayes they have had, we poore french should not goe further with our heads except we had a strong army. Those great lakes had not so soone come to our knowledge if it had not been for those brutish people; two men²⁵ had not found out the truth of these seas so cheape; the interest and the glorie could not doe what terror doth at the end The weather was agreeable when we began to navigat upon that great extent of watter, finding it so calme and the aire so cleare. We thwarted in a pretty place, came to an isle most delightfull for the diversity of its fruits. We called it the isle of the foure beggars We went from thence to gaine the firme lande, which was 6 leagues from us There we found a small river. It was so curious that I inquired my dearest friends the name of this stream. They named me it *panabickkomesibs*, which signifieth a small river of copper. I asked him the reason. He told me, "Come, and I shall shew thee the reason why." I was in a place which was not 200 paces in the wood, where many pieces of copper wears uncovered. Further he told me that the mountains I saw was of nothing else. Seeing it so faire and pure, I had a mind to take a piece of it, but they hindered me, telling my brother there was more where we were to goe. In this great Lake of myne owne eyes have scene which are admirable, and can maintaine of a hundred pounds teem will not be decayed.

"From this place we went along the coasts, which are most delightfull and wonderous, for it's nature that made it so pleasant to the eye, the spirit and the belly. As we went along we saw bankes of sand so high that one of our wildmen went up for curiositie, being there, did shew no more than a crow There comes many sorte of birds that makes their nest here, the goilants, which is a white sea-bird of the bignesse of pigeon, which makes me