

I had already acquired some small knowledge of the Iroquese language; and father Luke and I translated the Creed, Lord's Prayer, and Litany, which we caused them to get by heart, and repeat to their children. They pronounce no labial letters, such as B, P, M, F. Here we remained two years and a half, till we saw our house of mission finished, and then returned in a canoe down the river St. Lawrence to Quebec.

Having tarried there till those who were expected from Europe to bear part in this discovery were arrived, I embarked in a small canoe, made of the bark of birch trees, carrying nothing with me but a portable chapel, one blanket, and a mat of rushes, which was to serve me for bed and quilt. I arrived at fort Frontenac the second of November, 1678, and on the eighteenth embarked in a brigantine of about ten tons and fifteen men, the Sieur de la Motte, commander. We sailed on till we came to the further end of the lake Ontario, and on the sixth of January entered the river Niagara; where we set our carpenters and the rest of the crew to work in building a fort and some houses; but foreseeing that this was like to give jealousy to the Iroquese, and to the English who dwell near them, and have a great commerce with them, we told those of the village of Niagara, that we did not intend to build a fort on the bank of their river, but only a great store house to keep the commodities we had brought to supply their occasions. And, to remove their suspicion, Mr. de la Motte thought it absolutely necessary to send an embassy to the Iroquese; telling me, "He was resolved to take along with him seven