

two ridges of mountains, is in some places a league broad, and a half a league where it is narrowest. The ice which came down stopt us here till the twelfth of March. Then after prayers we embarked, and continuing our course down the river, we discovered three savages on the fifteenth, and landing, marched up to them; whereupon they ran away. But after some signs, one returned, and presented us the calumet of peace, which when we had received, the two others came back. We could not understand one word of their language; and when we named two or three different nations to them, one answered three times, Chiquacha. They gave us some pelicans they had killed with their arrows, and we presented them with part of our meat. Two days after, we saw many savages near the river, crying aloud, Sasacouest, that is, Who goes there? as I have been informed. They sent a pirogue or heavy wooden canoe towards us, wherein were the three savages we had met two days before. We presented our calumet of peace, which they received, but gave us to understand by signs that we must go to the Akansa, pointing to the savages ashore. We could not avoid it; and as soon as we were landed, the three Chiquachas took our canoe upon their shoulders, and carried it to the village. These savages received us very kindly, and presented us with beans, Indian corn, and flesh to eat. We made them also a present of some of our European commodities, which they admired, putting their fingers upon their mouths, especially when they saw our guns. The eighteenth we embarked again, after having been entertained with dancing and feasting,