

On an island in the Lake of the Woods, we saw several Indians, toward whom we made, in hopes to purchase provisions, of which we were much in want; and whom we found full of a story, that some strange nation had entered Montréal, taken Québec, killed all the English, and would certainly be at the Grand Portage before we arrived there.

On my remarking to Mr. Frobisher, that I suspected the *Bastonnais* (Bostonians, or English colonists) had been doing some mischief in Canada, the Indians directly exclaimed, "Yes; that is the name! *Bastonnais*."—They were lately from the Grand Portage, and appeared seriously apprehensive that the *Bastonnais* were coming into the north-west.\*

At the Forks of the River à la Pluie, there were a large number of Indians, under a friendly chief, with which latter I had had a previous acquaintance. On my visiting him, he told me, that there was bad news; and then repeated the story which we had heard on the Lake of the Woods, adding, that some of his young men were evil inclined, and

\* *Bastonnais* (*Bostonnais*, Bostonians) is the name by which the Canadians describe all the inhabitants of the English colonies, now the United States; and in the north-west, the English traders commonly use the French language.