

VOYAGES AND EXPLORATIONS

servant whom they had as a hostage. I left Quebec May 20 [21] and arrived at these great rapids on the 28th, where I did not find any savages, who had promised me to be there on the 20th of the month. I immediately went in a poor canoe with the savage that I had taken to France and one of our men. After having looked on all sides, not only in the woods, but also along the river bank, to find a suitable place for the site of a settlement, and to prepare a place in which to build, I went eight leagues by land, along the rapids through the woods, which are rather open, and as far as a lake,³ where our savage took me. There I contemplated the country very much in detail. But in all that I saw I did not find any place at all more suitable than a little spot which is just where the barks and shallops can come easily, either with a strong wind or by a winding course, because of the strength of the current. Above this place (which we named La Place Royale), a league from Mont Royal, there are a great many little rocks and shoals, which are very dangerous. And near this Place Royale there is a little river running back a good way into the interior, all along which there are more than sixty acres of cleared land,

³The Lake of Two Mountains. L.