

which I went missionary for Canada, by command from my superiours; and embarked at Rochelle, in company of Mr. de Laval, since bishop of Quebec, the capital city of Canada. Our crew was about one hundred men, to three fourths of whom I administered the sacrament, they being catholicks. I likewise performed divine service every day when the weather was calm, and we sung the Itinerary of the clergy, translated into French verse, after evening prayers.

I shall omit the accidents that befel us, being such only as are inseparable companions of all great voyages. Soon after my arrival, I was sent in mission about one hundred and twenty leagues beyond Quebec, accompanied by father Luke Buisset. We went up the river St. Lawrence southwards, till we came to fort Frontenac, distant from Quebec one hundred leagues. It was built to prevent the excursions of the Iroquese, and to interrupt the trade of skins these savages maintain with the inhabitants of Newyork, who furnish them with commodities at cheaper rates than the French of Canada.

The Iroquese are an insolent and barbarous nation, and have shed the blood of more than two millions of people in that vast extended country. They would never cease from disturbing the repose of the Europeans, were it not for fear of their fire arms. For they entertain no commerce with them unless it be for arms, which they buy on purpose to use against their neighbours; and by means of which they have extended their bloody conquests five or six hundred leagues beyond their own precincts, ~~exterminating~~ whatever nation they hate.