

Ex-comminiqui, or Esquimaux, and fight those "eaters of men" in their rocky caverns and ice-bound-fastnesses. To do this the Souriquois had to commit themselves in their great war-canoes to the mercies of the Northern Ocean—a strange feat for men who loved not war. The Maliseets, or Etchemins, I would prefer to believe, were a branch lopped off the parent Mic-Mac stem, as the Mic-Mac name for them would seem to indicate. Both tribes united for the common defence when invasion was threatened or combined their forces against their common enemy, the Armouchequois, tribes of the south. The Etheminqui, or Etchemins, were indeed a buffer between the Souriquois and the Indians of Cape Cod, and their exposed position may have fanned their warlike spirit to a constant flame; but the Mic-Macs, too, had their border forays and carried themselves valiantly in the fight.

It was of such people, then, that Memberton was leader; and evidence is not wanting to prove that when both tribes made cause against a common enemy, as in the great foray of 1605, he was commander-in-chief of the combined forces. His tribe, even in Lescarbot's time was in number doubly greater than the Etchemin; while in his old age Memberton used to boast that he once saw chimoutz, that is, his people as thickly planted by the sea as the hairs upon his own head. In those days it must indeed have been a position of great honor to be battle-leader of such vigorous warriors, and in those days Memberton in all the pride of his physical manhood was their great war-chief. In later years, when disease and those unaccountable visitations which so often decimated our Indians had reduced the effective fighting force of the Souriquois to four-hundred warriors, he was still, even after he had passed the century-mark, their chosen