

him to France. Hearing from this man, on his return in the spring of 1612, that by the route of the Ottawa he could reach the North Sea, where the English had in the meantime discovered Hudson's Bay, he proceeded up the Ottawa, giving a very clear description of the rapids and portages, and the confluence of the Rideau, Madawaska, and other streams, and reached as far as the great Alouette Island, which was the seat of the principal Algonquin Chief in those parts. Finding, however, that he had been deceived as to the probability of reaching the North Sea, and the Indians being unwilling to accompany him farther, he once more returned to France, and spent three years there in trying to induce some of the leading nobility to take his infant colony under their patronage.

This is the period of the first maps which I have seen. They bear date 1603, 1607, and 1609; but the most extensive is that published in 1613, with the first account of Champlain's voyages. It is not amongst those which I have copied. It gives his discoveries on the Atlantic coast, on the lower St. Lawrence, and the Ottawa, and indicates the existence of a large lake, from which the St. Lawrence flows.

Immediately upon his return in 1615, he joined, with about a dozen companions in another expedition against the Iroquois, the details of which are more particularly interesting to us, not only because it gave rise to the most important of the early discoveries, but because it was the first introduction of civilized man into what is now Upper Canada. Seeing that the Iroquois were seated on the south bank of the St. Lawrence, and their chief villages were amongst those lakes and rivers south of Lake Ontario which still bear the English names for the different tribes, he took a very curious road to reach them. It must, however, be remembered, that his Indian allies had to return home to collect their forces. He ascended the Ottawa beyond the limit of his first journey, till he branched off into the chain of small lakes, which led him to the Lake of the Epicerini, or Nebicerini, as later writers call them, an Algonquin tribe, who were long celebrated for their power as sorcerers, and whose name we still preserve in that of Lake Nipissing. Descending the river which flows out of that lake, he reached the great lake of the Attagouantans, or the fresh water sea of the Hurons, which he tells us is three hundred leagues from east to west, and forty leagues wide. Turning to the east, and coasting along the northern shore, he crossed a bay at the end of the lake (Matchedash Bay) to a fine country which was the home of the Hurons. Proceeding from village to village, the names of several of which he gives, all of them evidently situated on Matchedash Bay, and between that and Lake Simcoe, he arrived at the chief place of the tribe, which he calls Cahiagué, situated apparently