

any question or making any sign, our Indian guides took the silver chain of the Captain's whistle and the handle of a dagger which hung at the side of one of our sailors which was of brass as yellow as gold, and made signs that such things came from up the said river . . . but for lack of an interpreter we could not find out the distance to this country.' <sup>1</sup>

On returning to Ste. Croix, where he passed the winter, Cartier learned that while it was possible to reach the kingdom of Saguenay by the river of that name, the best route was up the river St. Lawrence 'to Hochelaga, to a stream which descends from the said Saguenay and enters the said river [St. Lawrence], and that it took one moon to go thither.' The Indians gave Cartier to understand that the inhabitants of Saguenay, who lived in towns and were clothed like the French, 'possessed a great quantity of gold and also red copper.' Canada, according to Cartier, embraced only that portion of the river St. Lawrence in the neighbourhood of Stadacona, near the site of the present city of Quebec. The word is derived without any doubt from the Huron-Iroquois word for 'village,' the modern form being *kanata*. Hochelaga included the district about the island of Montreal, while Saguenay lay to the north of Canada and of Hochelaga.

On May 3, 1536, Cartier seized eight of the Indians of Stadacona, and with two Indian children presented to him by one of the chiefs who lived farther up the St. Lawrence, set sail for France on May 6, 1536, and on July 6 arrived safely at St. Malo, having passed out into the Atlantic by way of Cabot Strait, to the south of Newfoundland.

Unfortunately, just a month before Cartier reached France, war had again broken out between Francis I and Charles V. As a result nothing could be done for some years to continue the search for the mysterious kingdom of Saguenay. On the other hand, no news of Cartier's discovery of the river St. Lawrence reached Spain at this time, so that so far as the Spaniards were concerned,

<sup>1</sup> Lescarbot, *History of New France*, ii. 122.