

SAMUEL DE CHAMPLAIN

over again all that he had said, on peril of his life.

So, our canoes being loaded with some provisions, with our arms and merchandise, with which to make presents to the savages, I set out—Monday, May 27—from the Isle de Ste. Hélène with four Frenchmen and a savage, and an adieu was given me from our bark with a few shots from small pieces. This day we went no farther than the Sault St. Louis, which is only one league up the river, because of the bad weather, which did not permit us to go any farther.

On the 29th we passed the rapids, partly by land, partly by water. We had to carry our canoes, clothes, provisions and arms on our shoulders, which is no slight task for those who are not accustomed to it. After having gone two leagues beyond the rapids, we entered a lake,⁸ about twelve leagues in circumference, into which three rivers empty—one coming from the west, from the direction of the Ochateguins,⁹ who live 150 to 200 leagues from the great rapids; another from the south,¹⁰ the country of the Iroquois, the same distance off; and the

⁸Lake St. Louis.

⁹The Hurons. This was the St. Lawrence.

¹⁰The Chateauguay.