

1698

Selected pages from *A new discovery of a vast country in America : extending above four thousand miles, between New France and New Mexico : with a description of the Great Lakes, cataracts, rivers, plants, and animals : also, the manners, customs, and languages of the several native Indians, and the advantage of commerce with those different nations : with a continuation, giving an account*

Louis Hennepin

Follow this and additional works at: <http://lux.lawrence.edu/selections>

© Copyright is owned by the author of this document.

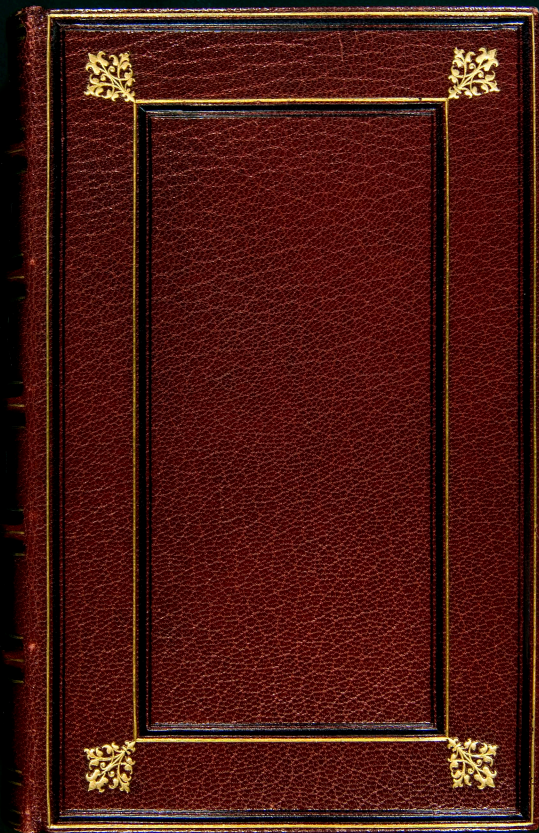
---

#### Recommended Citation

Hennepin, Louis, "Selected pages from *A new discovery of a vast country in America : extending above four thousand miles, between New France and New Mexico : with a description of the Great Lakes, cataracts, rivers, plants, and animals : also, the manners, customs, and languages of the several native Indians, and the advantage of commerce with those different nations : with a continuation, giving an account*" (1698). *Selections from Special Collections*. Book 19.

<http://lux.lawrence.edu/selections/19>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Seeley G. Mudd Library at Lux. It has been accepted for inclusion in Selections from Special Collections by an authorized administrator of Lux. For more information, please contact [colette.brautigam@lawrence.edu](mailto:colette.brautigam@lawrence.edu).





A NEW  
DISCOVERY  
IN  
AMERICA

HENNIPIN  
LONDON  
1698





A NEW  
DISCOVERY  
IN  
AMERICA

HENNEPIN  
LONDON  
1698



B  
B

A New Discovery of a Large  
Country in AMERICA by Father  
Lewis Hennepin



A  
New Discovery  
OF A  
Vast Country in AMERICA,  
Extending above Four Thousand Miles,  
BETWEEN  
New France and New Mexico.  
WITH A  
Description of the Great Lakes, Cata-  
racts, Rivers, Plants, and Animals:

Also, The Manners, Customs, and Languages, of the  
several Native Indians; And the Advantage of  
Commerce with those different Nations.

WITH A  
CONTINUATION:

Giving an ACCOUNT of the  
Attempts of the Sieur De la SALLE upon the  
Mines of St. Barbe, &c. The Taking of  
Quebec by the English; With the Advantages  
of a Shorter Cut to China and Japan.

Both Parts Illustrated with Maps and Figures,  
and Dedicated to His Majesty K. William.

By L. Hennepin, now Resident in Holland.

To which is added, Several New Discoveries in North-  
America, not publish'd in the French Edition.

LONDON: Printed for M. Bently, J. Tonson, H. Ben-  
wick, T. Goodwin, and S. Marsh. 1698.

C-19



Contents of the Chapters.

CHAP. LXX.

The Meeting of the Author and a certain Captain of a Navy, upon the Lake of Erie; who relates to him many Adventures of the Family and Nation, from Discoveries upon the great Lake or Continent of the North.

CHAP. LXXI.

The Author sets out from the East which is at the Mouth of the River Niagara, and obliges the Indians to attend to him, to deliver up the Silver they had made upon the Occurrences.

CHAP. LXXII.

The Author sets out from the Thierowassas Indians and comes to Fort Frontenac.

CHAP. LXXIII.

The Author sets out from Fort Frontenac, and goes over the great River, which is call'd The Red Fall. He is kindly receiv'd at Montreal by the French.

CHAP. LXXIV.

A great Defeat of the Indians, that were attack'd by the English.

CHAP. LXXV.

The Savage Killage, murder Father Gabriel de Ribouard, a French Missionary.

CHAP. LXXVI.

The Author's Escape from his Discovery in Quebec; which happen'd at his arrival at the Court of the Lady of Angles near this Town.

THIS MAP  
OF A LARGE COUNTRY  
Newly Discover'd  
in the  
NORTHERN AMERICA  
Situated between  
NEW MEXICO  
and the French Sea  
together with the Course  
of the Great River  
M.D.C.C.XLXXXIII  
Dedicated to his Majesty  
WILLIAM III  
King of Great Britain  
By Father  
LEWIS HENNEPIN  
Missionary, Mathematician and  
Publick Astronomer



## CHAP. VII.

*A Description of the Fall of the River Niagara, to be seen betwixt the Lake Ontario and that of Erie.*

BEtwixt the Lake Ontario and Erie, there is a grand and prodigious Cadence of Water which comes down after a surprizing and astonishing manner, so much that the Universe does not afford a Parallel. 'Tis true, Italy and Sweden boast of the like such Things; but we may well say they are but ordinary Patterns, when compar'd to this of which we now speak. At the foot of this horrible Precipice we meet with the River Niagara, which is above half a quarter of a League broad, but wonderfully deep in some places. It is so rapid at this Descent, that it violently hurries down the Rocks while endeavouring to pass it to feed on the other side, they not being able to withstand the force of its Current, which inevitably casts them headlong above Six hundred foot.

This wonderful Downfall is compounded of three great Cross-streams of Water, and two Falls, which fall from this vast height, do foam and splash after the most hideous manner imaginable, making an outrageous Noise, more terrible than the Thunder; for when the Wind blows from off the South, their dismal roaring may be heard above seven Leagues off.

The River Niagara having thrown it self into this incredible Precipice, continues its impetuous course for two Leagues together, to the great above-mention'd, with an inexpressible Rapidity. But having pass'd that, its Impetuosity relents,



*Page 24. Part of 1. 11*

quantity of wild Bulls in that Country, first Earth is cover'd with their Horns. The Indians drive them towards the latter end of *Autumn*.

We continu'd our Course upon this River near the whole Month of *December*; but towards the latter end of the said Month, 1679. we arriv'd the Village of the *Illinois*, which lies near one hundred and thirty Leagues from Fort *Miami*, on the Lake of the *Illinois*. We suffer'd very much in Passage; for the Savages having set the Bulls on the Plain on fire, the wild Bulls were fled and so we could kill but one, and some Turkeys and Cocks. God's Providence supported us all the while and when we thought that the Extremities we were reduc'd to, were past all hopes of Remedy, we found a prodigious big wild Bull, lying fast in the Mud of the River. We kill'd him and had much ado to drag him out of the Mud. This was a great Refreshment to our Men, and reviv'd their Courage; for he was so timely and unexpectedly reliev'd, they concluded that God approv'd our Design.

#### CHAP. XXX.

*A Description of the Hunting of the wild Bulls and Turkeys by the Savages; Of the bigness of those Beasts; and of the Advantages and Improvements that may be made of the Plain where they Pasture; and of the Manner of their Migrations threabouts.*

WHEN the Savages discover a great Number of those Beasts together, they likewise assemble their whole Tribe to encompass the Bulls, and then set on fire the dry Herbs about them, excepting some places, which they leave free; and themselves in Ambuscade. The Bulls seeing the Flame round about them, run away through

Page 90 Plate 4<sup>th</sup>





A  
CONTINUATION,  
OF THE  
New Discovery  
OF A  
*Vast Country in AMERICA,*  
Extending above Four Thousand Miles,  
BETWEEN  
New France *and* New Mexico;  
Giving an  
ACCOUNT  
OF THE

Attempts of the *Sieur De la SALLE* upon the  
Mines of *St. Barbe*, &c. The Taking of  
*Quebec* by the *English*; With the Advantages  
of a Shorter Cut to *China* and *Japan*.

By *L. Hennepin*, now Resident in *Holland*.

To which are added, Several *New Discoveries* in *North-*  
*America*, not publish'd in the *French* Edition.

LONDON, Printed for *M. Bentley, J. Tonson,*  
*H. Bawick, T. Goodwin,* and *S. Mansiepe*. 1698.



M. de la Salle's Ship.

The Unfortunate adventures of Mons<sup>r</sup>. de la Salle.

## C H A P. II.

An Account of several Misfortunes that befell M. de la Salle at the Bay of St. Lewis.

**M.** LaSalle had expressly forbid the Captain of the Fly-boat to attempt to come into the Bay, without having on board the Pilot of the Frigate, who was an experienc'd Man; and for a greater security he had commanded him to unlade his Guns into the Pinnace to make his Ship the lighter; yet that Brute neglected those Orders and Advice, and without taking any notice of the Marks or Poles they had plac'd on the Sands to shew him the Channel, and the Advice of the Seamen, he sail'd his Ship at random, and ran her against a Sand where she remain'd: M. de la Salle was a-shore, and fearing the fate of his Ship, was going on board to save her, but was prevented by about 120 Savages who came to attack him: He put his Men in a posture of defence, but the noise alone of the Drums put the Savages to flight: M. de la Salle follow'd them and presented them the Calumet of Peace, which they accepted, and came along with him to his Camp, where he entertain'd them, and sent them back with some Presents; they were pleas'd, that they brought some Provisions the next day, and made Alliance with M. de la Salle, whereby they engag'd themselves to supply him with some Pyrogues or wooden Canon's: That Alliance would likely have prov'd very advantageousto M. de la Salle, had not an unforeseen Accident broke that good Intelligence.

As they were unlading the Fly-boat which had struck upon the Sand to endeavour to get her off, a Pack of Blankets fell into the Sea, which the Waves drove



The CONTENTS

CHAP. XXXV.

*Of the proper Method to establish good Colonies: Thoughts and Opinions of the Learned Astronomer Hevelius and Earth,* p. 147

CHAP. XXXVI.

*The History of the Expedition which the English made into Canada in the year 1683; the taking of Quebec the Missions of Canada in 1699, the most honorable Treatment they gave the Recollets,* p. 150

CHAP. XXXVII.

*How the Religions of St. Francis in their Progress through the habitable World have been before the Jesuits,* p. 157

CHAP. XXXVIII.

*The Sentiments of a Missionary sent to visit of the little Progress they find in their Labors,* p. 160

as certain People, Neighbours of the *Illinois*, from whom they learnt that the *Iroquois* are a very cruel People, tho' not stout, but only because they have Fire-arms, which they bought of the Europeans: That without them they never durst attack the *Illinois*, who are valiant, and more dexterous at Bows and Arrows than the *Iroquois*.

Those *Iroquois* that don't go out to fight, are contemn'd, and pass for Cowards and effeminate Men. Because they have Firelocks, they invade all other Nations between both Seas, that is, from North to South: and no Nation in *America* can stand before the *Iroquois* on account of their Firelocks. This renders them haughty and insufferable. They call themselves *Men* by way of Excellence, as tho' other Nations were no more than Brutes in comparison with them. I understand very well how to bring the *Iroquois* to a better pass: but a Man of my Character ought not to talk of these Matters but with a great deal of Caution, because the Remedies which I would propose, might perhaps be worse than the Mischief that might be apprehended from that Nation; nevertheless I may discover my Sentiments in due time to those high Persons that put me upon writing this Work.

### CHAP. XXIII.

*Of the Cruelty of the Savages in general, and particularly of the Iroquois.*

There are no Savages in all the Northern *America* but what are very cruel to their Enemies. We are astonish'd at the Cruelties which the *Nyocois*, the *Dioclesians*, and the *Maximins* inflicted upon the Christians, and have their Names in Detestation and

†

Hor-



*The Cruelty of The Savage Iroquois*



The Taking of Quebec by The English

## C H A P. XXXVI.

The History of the Irruption which the English made into Canada in the Year 1628. The taking of Quebec, the Metropolis of Canada, in the Year 1629. The most honourable Treatment they gave the Recolets.

I Thought my self obliged to publish the Observations which I have drawn from the Reverend Father Valentine le Roux, Provincial Commissary of our Recolets of Canada, who is a Man of singular Merit. I have told you in my first Volume, that I communicated to him my Journal of the Discovery I made of all the River of Meschafipi. This Man, who has a deep and piercing Judgment, has published what he knows of the Intrigues of Canada under a borrowed Name; and he shews in his Work, that the Conduct of Providence is always admirable, and that he accomplishes her Designs by ways impenetrable, in their Beginning, in their Progress, and in their Perfection.

The Colony of New France, says this clear-sighted Religious, for a long time flourished more and more; great Discoveries were made, Trade advanced, the People encreased, Chappels and Oratories were built in many places, and the Country had a new face of Government: But God permitted all this to be ruined by the descent of the English, who pretend that their Sovereign is not only King of three Kingdoms, but also of the Sea.

Some English, zealous for their Nation, armed a Fleet in 1628, to seize upon Canada, in the Reign of Lewis XIII, Father of the present King. Two Turtles