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Nota di contenuto	Front Matter -- Contents -- Abbreviations -- Preface -- Textual Introduction -- The Port Nelson Relations, 1682–84 -- Des Voyages Du Sieur Pierre Esprit Radisson -- Relation Du Voyage De L'Année 1684 -- Miscellaneous Writings, 1676?–83 -- Journal des choses les plus remarquables arrivé depuis nostre despart de la pointe Confort pour Port Nelson l'année 1673 [1676–78?] -- Mémoire on the Northern Seacoast of North America [original untitled; 1676–78] -- Letter to Claude Bernou [December 1677?] -- Petition [to the Marquis de Seignelay? late 1683] -- Related Documents -- Médard Chouart Des Groseilliers: Letter Concerning the Events at Port Nelson, 1682–83 [late 1683 or early 1684] -- Radisson vs. the Hudson's Bay Company: Complaint in Chancery, May 1694 -- Radisson's Narrative in Reference to the Answer of the Commissioners of France, 1697 -- Radisson's Affidavit, sworn before Sir Robert Geffery, 23 August 1697 -- Radisson's Petition to Parliament, 1698 -- The Last Will and Testament of Pierre-Esprit Radisson, 17 June 1710 -- Appendices -- The Abbé Bernou Debriefs Radisson: The Supposed "Petitions" of 1677 and 1681 -- "The History of Mr Radison's Transactions" William Yonge's Letter, 1692 -- Addendum: References in Volume 1 to Pages in Volume 2 -- Works Consulted -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Pierre-Esprit Radisson (1636?–1710) was many men. He was a teenager captured, tortured, and adopted by the Mohawk, and a youth relishing the freedom of the wilderness. He was the French-born servant of an

ambitious English trading company and a hapless petitioner at the court of Louis XIV. He was a central figure in the tug-of-war between France and England over Hudson Bay and a pretender to aristocratic status who had to defend his actions before James II. Finally, he was a retired "sea captain" trying to provide for his children, and despite the pension he had fought for, the "decay'd Gentleman" described in his burial record. Radisson's writings, characterized by hubris and contradiction, provoke many questions. Was he a semi-literate woodsman? Are his accounts of Native life ethnographically reliable? Can he be trusted to tell the truth about himself? How important were his explorations? All these questions are raised in this first critical edition of Radisson's writings in both English and French, which includes previously unknown documents. Volume 1 follows Radisson's account of the decade he spent, in part with his brother-in-law Médard Des Groseilliers, exploring far into the interior of North America. In Volume 2, Radisson recounts his part in the battle over possession of Hudson Bay waged in the 1680s by England and France, his difficulties at the French and English courts, and his struggle with the Hudson's Bay Company for his just reward. Striking a superb balance between accessible writing and comprehensive scholarship, this new edition of Radisson's writing is indispensable, definitive, and reasserts the important roles that Radisson played in seventeenth-century North American rivalries.
