

Letter written to Monsieur the Marquis de Vaudreuil by Sieur Aubry, Jesuit missionary.

At ST. FRANÇOIS, october 3, 1723.

MONSIEUR,  
The chief of our mission, Nanoudohout, has doubtless recently explained to you the message that Neskambeoui has brought from the Renards [Foxes]; and how all the Savages, even the young men, of my mission have been horrified that the Renards should thus invite them to declare themselves for that tribe against the upper nations,—because that would be, they say, to declare themselves Against your children and their brothers. This will not prevent me, however, from giving myself the honor of writing to you something on this subject. “We have,” they say, “another war to Sustain, a just and necessary one, against the english, without consenting to enter upon another, which is both unjust and pernicious. We did very well to obey Monsieur de Vaudreuil, our father, 4 years ago, when Nenangounikou came to invite us on the part of those Renards to go in great numbers to their country, to eat the beaver’s tail there,”—that means, “to pursue our Hunting, and make our abode there.” “Their fine message must amount to just this: we would there be engaged in their war, against all Nations.”

That, Monsieur, is what our young men, our old men, and I have understood. I can only testify to