

attached to France, . . . and in this way the safety of Canada will be thoroughly provided for." Loyard recommends an increase of the annual gratuity now given to the frontier Abenakis, and the gift of a royal medal, which will be to them a constant assurance of the king's protection.

CXCVI. Joseph Aubery writes (October 3, 1723) to Governor Vaudreuil, mentioning the recent but unsuccessful attempt of the Wisconsin Foxes to secure an alliance with the Abenakis, in order to wage war against the Algonkins. Aubery thanks Vaudreuil for having foiled a previous scheme of the Foxes of the same sort. If he had not done so, the Abenakis would now be "both without Christianity and without affection for the French, in that country of the *Rénards*."

CXCVII. This is a letter from Rale to his brother (dated October 12, 1723), giving a sketch of his missionary life in New France. He describes the cabins, clothing, adornment, occupations, and canoes of the Abenakis. In living among them, Rale was at first most annoyed by their mode of eating; "nothing could be more revolting." But his host says: "Thou must conquer thyself; is that a very difficult thing for a Patriarch, who thoroughly understands how to pray? We ourselves overcome much, in order to believe that which we do not see,"—an unanswerable argument.

Rale, like his predecessors, finds the Indian languages exceedingly difficult, either to understand or to learn. He describes those of the Abenakis and the Hurons, and gives specimens of these, and of other tongues. After spending nearly two years among the Abenakis, Rale is assigned to the Illinois .