

marry again." The little girls made orphans by the massacre are placed in charge of the Ursuline nuns, since "none of the habitants wish to adopt" these children. A warm eulogy is bestowed upon these devoted nuns, who, only seven in number, are overloaded with cares and labors.

The Chickasaw Indians are endeavoring to seduce the Illinois tribes from their loyalty to the French; but they refuse to listen to these overtures, and even send ambassadors to assure the French of their fidelity and devotion, and to offer their aid in fighting the Natches. The piety of these ambassadors edifies all the French people, and Le Petit admits that many of the latter "are not so well instructed in religion as are these neophytes." One of these Illinois savages has visited France, and his tribesmen refuse to believe the wonderful stories that he tells them, on his return, about what he saw there.

The Natches have fled to the Red River, and dwell there in three forts. "This war has retarded the French colony; nevertheless, we flatter ourselves that this misfortune will be productive of benefit, by determining the Court to send the forces necessary to tranquilize the colony and render it flourishing." Troops are now on the way from France.

CCIV. Luc François Nau, who has just arrived in Canada, writes (October 20, 1734) to his provincial, describing the long and arduous voyage which he and several other priests have made. He narrates the discomforts they endured from close and crowded quarters; the stench and vermin proceeding from a crowd of military recruits, and another of released prisoners, who are being shipped to the American colonies; the ship-fever which rages throughout the