

that they must lay down the war club they had raised against the Illinois, &c., &c.

[Here is but a repetition of the speech above given, and the replies of the tribes.—Tr.]

Such, Monsieur De Siette, are the terms in which they replied. They have still, (since spring,) three or four war parties upon the Illinois, to whom they were to speak against continuing the war. But the chiefs of the nations are well disposed, and well perceive, as they said, with tears, that there is no hope except in obedience. They demanded of me at what time they should have the reply of the Grand Ononthio. I told them it would be in a year.

In the meantime, we are laboring to detach the Sioux, by way of La Pointe, from their alliance, by causing the Commandant there to make them presents. We endeavor also to stop their passage to the Iroquois, either by way of the river St. Josephs or Detroit, should they wish to go thither—those Indians having offered them an asylum.

These are the views I have had in speaking to them of peace, to accomplish our purpose more certainly in case they break their promises.

You indicate in your letter that you have orders from the Directors of the Company (Co. of the Indies) to write to all the commandants of Canadian posts, to ascertain the means at their control, in case the peace with the Foxes and other nations of the Bay should fail, and as no person is willing to take the first step for fear of treachery, the only means left is to destroy. Such is the opinion you have given in writing to the Superior Council at New Orleans, and you have advised the Directors of the same thing.

I agree, Monsieur, with you, that this would be the best expedient, but I state in writing that nothing could be more hurtful to the colonies than this enterprise. If we do not succeed in surprising them, nothing can be expected, but they