

His Majesty recommends that you use every endeavor to close this affair.

As it regards the proposition which the *Sieur De Siette*, who commands among the Illinois, for the Company of the Indies, has made, of entirely destroying the Foxes, this would be a bad expedient. For there is the uncertainty of success, and the consequences of a failure might be frightful, besides the enterprise will cause a heavy expenditure which might be better applied. Thus the *Sieur De Beauharnois* will continue to pursue every mode of accommodating this business, and if after that, they fail to keep their promises, we can think what means it will be proper to make use of, to reduce them by force. But it will not be necessary to determine this till all other means have failed.

*Notes on the above by the French Transcriber at Paris.*

[In the duplicate of a reply to the above despatch, this war is not spoken of, but in a private letter of the 25th of September, 1727, it is stated, that they (the Government at Quebec,) had, in the official answer, represented that the English were jealous of the trade which the French had with the Indian nations of the Upper Country, and practiced all methods to withdraw that commerce, and to cause the Indians to suspect the French, and that they have gained a great number of the savages by presents of value which they send them continually. They represent that the English had privately sent belts to all the tribes among whom the French have posts or establishments, to persuade the Indians to rid themselves of them, and to extinguish the garrisons, and that the Foxes, who had received these belts, had said they would not suffer the French to remain in their country.

That they had also represented that this information determined them to make a serious war on the Foxes, and prevent their bad designs. The *Sieur De Beauharnois* would, therefore, in the spring, (of 1728), take proper measures for the exe-