

The french would not for a long while agree to their request till they beg'd and promised him so much that at last they prevailed upon him to send out 15 large Ships to help the Bostonians, w^{ch} was last summer and accordingly they joined the Bostonians army at Rhode Island. As soon as the King of Englands Ships at N. York heard of it they went in search of them and when they came in sight of the french Ships they immediately left the Bostonians and went to sea and the English Ships pursuing them could not stop them to fight but had some Shot at them now and then; since that, the french Ships went to the West Indies where the English followed them and taking a french Island the french General wanted to take it from them again with his Fleet & Army but was beat off with the loss of 3000 men & run away to another Island where he is now shut up by the English Fleet & dare not come to fight them & y^r father the King of England has now such a numerous fleet w^{ch} wth in the 12 mth has been so successfull in the East Ind^{as} & every where that the french fleet wont show itself. Now the King of France is so angry with the Bostonians that they brought them into this Quarrel that he wont send them a Ship or a man more, and you wont see him so soon for w^{ch} reason I have called some of y^r people that winterd at Montreal to come to this place where I convinced them that there was no french ship here or in y^r Mouth of this Riv^r this Spring.

I can assure you Children that when ever I find that the french will get the better of this Country I shall act the same part wth your late father Vaudreuil as to acquaint you of it myself, till then I beg you will keep yourselves quiet, follow your hunt^s & Trade & keep the Bostonians out of your Country in order to enjoy peace & plenty.

A Belt.

Indorsed: "Speech to the Indians at Michilimakinac, Copy of which sent to Major Depeyster the 3^d July '79."