

with his people—while Monsieur the chevalier de Baugy¹ passed by another way, in order to meet the sieur de la Salle in case he should come by the same way, which is the shortest. Therefore, knowing your views regarding the various advices that we have received as to the state of those nations, we thought, with Monsieur Duluth, that it would be advisable to take advantage of the opportunity offered by his people whom he is sending to the Nadouessis via la Baye, and who have been joined by other persons. Accordingly he left on the eighth instant, with about thirty persons. They were to proceed as far as the house of St. François Xavier, situated at the head of the Bay, and leave their goods there, proceeding afterward in warlike array to speak to the Pouteatamis. They intended to partly inform those savages of the resentment felt by the new Onontio² on account of their past assassinations and the bad feelings they display toward the French who go to their country, inspiring the other nations with their own hostile spirit. It is the policy of the wretched Ounanghissé, with the view of shielding himself, to induce others to join him; and, whatever good-will he may display, there is no doubt that he is urging the Illinois, Miamis, and others to do without the French—leading them to hope that he and his adherents will supply them with goods. Our house, therefore, gives him umbrage, because he thinks that it favors the designs of the French. Monsieur Duluth—who had not yet been able to start for Lake Superior, for the reasons which he has written you—will effect a good stroke, speaking as he will speak to them, and as I shall be careful to write you by another conveyance with details of all matters. For the present, Monseigneur, it will suffice for me to tell you that, intending to send to the Nadouessis via la Baye, as he wrote you, it was necessary to clear the road and make it safe for his people until

¹The Chevalier de Baugis (Baugy) was an officer in Governor La Barre's guards. In 1683, he was sent by La Barre to seize La Salle's fort (St. Louis) on the Illinois; he remained there about a year, when he gave it up to Henri de Tonty, and returned to Quebec.—ED.

²Frontenac was superseded (September, 1682) by La Barre, who held the office of governor during three years; he was succeeded in 1685 by Denonville.—ED