

other measures can be taken, should this slight attempt not have the effect expected from it. Matters will be arranged in accordance with your intentions. One good thing (and no slight one) will result from this expedition, if we prevent the rupture between the Outagamis and the Sauteurs; Monsieur Duluth will strive for this with a vigor corresponding to that which animates your great mind, and which I cannot sufficiently admire. This compels and urges us to redouble our prayers, and beg heaven to bless all your designs.

I am sending sundry letters to Our Reverend Father Superior, from which he will obtain information of various kinds and tell you what concerns Messieurs de la Durantaye and the chevalier de Baugy. I fear that the latter may meet with dangerous encounters, owing to the continual acts of hostility that take place in that direction; for the Iroquois carried off fifty Mascoutins, and the latter are no less to be dreaded should they meet any person while pursuing the aggressors. Steps must be taken to secure the return of the Miamis and Illinois to their own country. A savage called Nassouascouat, who has just come from that quarter and who is going to see you in the spring, assures me that the Illinois will return to their country if they can be sure of your protection. Monsieur de la Durantaye came to an understanding with Father d'Allouès, and I rejoice in the hope that success might be obtained as we had planned at the beginning, and that those Gentlemen would arrange with him regarding Monsieur de la Salle and the Savages of that quarter. But an indisposition that attacked the Father puts an end to these measures. It will perhaps be somewhat late when Monsieur de la Salle is warned, if Monsieur the chevalier de Baugy has not become impatient at waiting so long for Monsieur de la Durantaye—who has had many causes of delay, apart from the length of the journey. If all who have taken the road to the Miamis and Illinois arrive safely, Monsieur the chevalier de Baugy will not be the only one to winter in that quarter, according to the first idea—which was not to abandon that part of the country until still better protection was afforded the Savages than that given by Monsieur de la Salle. I have imparted to all the advice I deemed most conformable to your intentions.