

latter and to preach the Gospel to them, on account of the proximity of the French and the number of Missionaries who will be there.

This, Monsieur, is all that I can write to you at present of the excellence of this Country. If any discovery should be made hereafter I will inform you of it.

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1687: ENGLISH AND IROQUOIS INTRIGUES AMONG NORTH-WESTERN TRIBES.

[Part of a letter from Governor Denonville to the French Minister; dated June 8, 1687. The original MS. is in the Paris archives; we obtain our text from a transcript in the Dominion archives at Ottawa, Canada; press-mark, "Corres. gén., vol. ix, pp. 31-50."]

By the last letters that I had the honor to send you (in November of last year), I rendered you a tolerably exact account of the condition of affairs in this country. Since that time, Monseigneur, we have learned from Missilimaquina that Father Angelran, Superior of the missionaries who are scattered among the remote nations of that region, and Sieur de la Durantaye, who commands at Missilimakinak and the other posts that we hold, have had great difficulty in restraining all the Hurons and the other Outawes savages, and preventing them from going to find the Sonnontwan [Seneca] Iroquois—resolved to come to terms with them, and to become their dependants, and thus their allies. As a result, through the Iroquois power would be introduced the trade with the English—which has made a strong impression upon our savages by the cheapness of the wares which the English merchants sold them last year at Missilimakinak, whither they resort, as I have had the honor of informing you by my letters. This Huron nation—naturally distrustful and fickle, like all the savages—and the Outawes, although they have long been the enemies of the Iroquois, willingly go over to their side. They do so through fear of the Iroquois power, and through the persuasions of the English, who promise to maintain them in peace with their