

All Sieur DelaMotte's<sup>1</sup> penetration, however, did not prevent some Hurons, among whom was the Baron's son, proceeding, unknown to him, with the consent of all the Nations, both of Michilimakina and its vicinity, to the Village of the Senecas, to make their peace, independent of Onontio. They carried, for this purpose, fourteen Belts, of which some of the better-disposed Hurons secretly and mysteriously furnished him, eight days after their departure, with the explanation, the substance whereof is briefly as follows: "Our Father has vexed us; he has long since deceived us. We now cast away his voice; we will not hear it any more. We come without his participation to make peace with you, and to join our arms. The Chief at Michilimakina has told us lies; he has made us kill one another; Our Father has betrayed us. We listen to him no more."

These deputies have carried back to the Senecas three of their men, in order to give them up. Two of these are to remain at the village, and the other is to return with some influential Iroquois for the purpose of having an interview, in the latter part of August, with all the Lake Tribes, and causing the existing war to be succeeded by a durable peace and close alliance.

It is a misfortune that it was impossible to anticipate the Embassy of those Indians, as this blow could have been certainly averted. But it must be understood that when they are determined to keep a secret, the policy of the most expert Machiavelian would fail against their finesse and deception, daubed over with the whitewash of sincerity and the fairest appearances in the world.

Whilst the Baron was at Montreal, as I have already stated, acting the part of the couchant dog and listening with apparent submission to Onontio's voice, all this fine scheme was concocting in the Upper Country; and what was wonderful is, that the resolution of the Council was taken and concluded before he

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<sup>1</sup> A reference to Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac, who came to America when a young man, and settled in Acadia. Losing all his property there by English incursions (1690-91), he removed to Quebec, and Frontenac gave him an appointment in the colonial troops. From 1694 to 1697, he was commandant at Michillimackinac; in 1701 he established the post of Detroit, which he governed during ten years, and from 1712 to 1715 he was governor of Louisiana. He died in France, Oct. 18, 1730.—Ed.