

nation and take possession of their country; but now, seeing that the French are befriending and aiding the Iroquois, the Ottawas and Hurons will have nothing to do with Cadillac's settlement.]—*Jes. Relations*, lxxv, pp. 18-21, 189-253; lxxi, 381.

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1703: HURONS REFUSE TO GO TO DETROIT.

[Extracts from letter of Father Joseph Marest to Cadillac. From Margry's *Découv. et établ.*, v, pp. 247-250.]

AT MISSILIMAKINAK, May 12, 1703.

MONSIEUR—As I have pressing reasons which compel me unavoidably to go down to Quebec on leaving Missilimakinak, I find myself unable to take advantage of the opportunity offered me, by the canoe and the man sent me, to satisfy the desire of those who urge me to go to Detroit.

I am much obliged to you for your kindness in placing your house at my disposal until such time as I can lodge myself, and also for the consolation your letter has caused me through the hope it leads me to feel, and the foretaste it gives me, of the perfect accord in which we shall live together.

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As soon as I learned from my Superior's letter that he called me to Detroit, I made it my duty, the very next day, to inform the Savages of it and that I was preparing to obey him; that they knew well enough that it was Onontio's will that they should follow me there; that they should therefore give me a positive and certain answer on that point; that I was obliged to go to Quebec first of all and that I should bear their word to Onontio. They asked me for three days in which to deliberate; this led me to believe that they wished to gather at Detroit. But I was greatly surprised when, on the third day, the councillors who were assembled among the Kiskakons told me with one voice that they had resolved to die at Missilimakinak, and that even if they left there they would never go to Detroit; that such was their final resolution; that I was to assure Onontio of this