

of the Sault au Recolet,¹ and those of Detroit; and that you so manage as to break up all the intrigues that may be afoot in these places.

You did very well to dissuade the Chief of the Outaouacs from the design he entertained of going to trade with the English. His Majesty approves your having employed mild means for that purpose, and even that you had caused him to be furnished with a little Brandy in order to restrain him, when that alone will effectually prevent them resorting to the English for purposes of trade. You can very well suffer them to purchase a little of it, and provided moderation and propriety be observed, the inconveniences will be avoided which necessitated the prohibiting of the sale of Brandy; but this requires great caution on your part.

It would be desirable, if possible, to retain the Miamis at Detroit. Nevertheless, should they persist and their reasons appear valid, you can permit them to return home; but I request you to confer with Sieur de la Motte Cadillac, so as not to interfere with the measures he may have taken for the establishment of that post, and in that case you need not furnish them with a French Chief.

It is also unnecessary for you to supply the Poutouatamis with one,² and it would be well even to prevent them waging war against the Sioux, who are not our enemies. Should the Iroquois declare against them at the same time, they would be overwhelmed; and we have an interest in preserving them.

His Majesty has approved the measures you have adopted to prevent the war between the Iroquois and the Outaouacs, and I doubt not but the arrangement you caused them to enter into

¹Reference is here made to various mission colonies of Indians, in the neighborhood of Montreal, formed by Jesuit and Sulpitian missionaries among their converts in order to keep them from relapsing into heathenism.—Ed.

²At this time, the garrisons and commandants had been withdrawn from most of the French posts on the Upper Lakes. The king's instructions to Vaudreuil and Beauharnais dated June 10, 1704, warn them that they "must not appoint a commandant at Michilimakinak, so that the Indians may be compelled to go to Detroit" (*Suppl. Canad. Archives*, 1899, p. 207).—Ed.