

resignation to my will, and an abandonment, as it were, of one's self to my benevolence. These are the terms, My Lord, I used in speaking to him.—*N. Y. Colon. Docs.*, ix, pp. 810, 811.

1708: REJECTION OF PROPOSAL TO ENROLL INDIANS IN
CANADIAN MILITIA.

[Part of *Sieur d'Aigremont's* report to *Count de Pontchartrain*; dated
Nov. 14, 1708.]

He [*Lamothe Cadillac*] told me that he had proposed to you, My Lord, to organize complete companies of Indians. To this I could not help observing to him, that I considered it very bold to have made such a proposal to you, and that it did appear to me extraordinary to wish to undertake to discipline people who possess no subordination among themselves, and whose chiefs cannot say to the others, "Do thus and so," but merely "it would be proper to do so and so," without naming any person. Otherwise, they would do nothing, being opposed to all constraint. Moreover, these people having no idea of Royal grandeur nor Majesty, nor of the power of Superiors over inferiors, will not feel among themselves any emulation or ambition to reach those national honors, and consequently no desire to perform their duties. Neither would they be influenced thereunto by fear of punishment, for, not tolerating any among themselves, they would suffer still less that others should inflict any on them.

In fine, My Lord, men are not esteemed great among these people except in so far as they are skilled in killing others by surprise, and successful in hunting. As these qualities are not found among the old, they entertain a great contempt for them—to such a degree that one *John Le Blanc*, an *Outaouis*, had one day the insolence to say, as I understand, of the late *Count de Frontenac* that he was a good-for-nothing imbecile (*malingre*) since he required a horse to carry him.

I am persuaded that if any of these pretended Captains would give some command to the subaltern officers or soldiers