

There still remain at Michilimackinac fourteen or fifteen Frenchmen, who could not possibly subsist there, if the merchants and others in Montreal did not send them goods. These are not the only ones who trade there; many canoes go up under pretext of government service, which are really loaded with goods. As those who conduct the canoes are usually the favorites of M. Vaudreuil, there is reason to believe that he has an interest in this trade. It is certain that if there were no French at Michilimackinac, most of the beaver now bartered there would go to the English.

Previous to the departure of M. d'Aigremont from Michilimackinac, a band of the Outawas, who had been to Montreal, arrived there. They had with them five casks of brandy, and were all so much intoxicated the next night, that they set fire to their own wigwams, which would all have been burned, but for the timely aid of the French, and who for this service were much abused by the savages.

The government at Montreal should prevent the savages from carrying away such large quantities of brandy, as it is the cause of most of the quarrels arising among them. They also squander the greater part of their beaver in presents and in brandy, and have not enough remaining to purchase half the articles that are indispensable to their comfort. The Outawas informed M. d'Aigremont that they obtained permission to bring away their brandy, by means of large presents which they made to M. Vaudreuil. He does not know certainly that this is true, but he is certain that the other presents received by M. Vaudreuil this year will amount to more than five hundred pistoles.

A chief of the Outawas, who has been at Detroit, and is now at Michilimackinac, complained that M. la Motte refused to deliver to him a necklace of porcelain, and a feast-kettle which the chief had given to one of La Motte's agents, in security for five beaver-skins which he had borrowed. The chief wished to return the loan two-fold, and receive back his property, but was refused. He thinks the refusal arises from the fact that he did not wish to return to Detroit. M. la Motte told this chief, and many of his nation, that if they would not return to Detroit, they would all die. The savages are so superstitious that they now believe, when any of their people die, that M. la Motte has