

sible to prevent their going, the fur trade in Canada, which is our principal dependence, would be ruined. The savages would also array themselves against us in the first war, as they always take the part of those with whom they trade.

1713-14: FOXES ARE UNRULY AND LAWLESS; SHOULD BE DESTROYED; FRENCH RENEGADES.

[Extracts from letter of Vaudreuil and Bégon to the Minister; dated Nov. 15, 1713. Original MS. is in archives of Ministère des Colonies, Paris; pressmark, "Canada, Corresp. gén., vol. 34, c. 11, fol. 4."]

Sieur de Vaudreuil would have wished to send last spring Sieur de Louvigny to Michilimaquina to bring about a peace between the outaouis and other nations of the upper country, or to have the war against the Renards continued, because he has a good deal of influence among these nations. Sieur de Vaudreuil apprehended that this delay might have a bad effect, and that those nations might go to deal with the English; M. Begon who admitted the utility of this voyage, believed, however, that he could not employ any of the means that have been proposed to him for so doing.

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The Renards being the common Enemies of all the nations of the upper country, it is absolutely necessary to take all possible measures for destroying them, as they have but recently killed at detroit three Frenchmen and five hurons. That act obliged the hurons to send here [Quebec] six of their people, in their name and that of the Miamis, to ask for help; and to request that the French join with them to obtain satisfaction—as otherwise they will find themselves very closely confined to fort Pontchartrain at detroit, and in fear of having their heads broken every time they leave it. This new outrage on the part of the Renards (who last spring at the baye des puantes killed one l'Epine, a Frenchman) makes it apparent that it is no longer possible to deal gently with that nation without incurring the contempt of all the others, who are informed of the wrongs done us by the Renards.