

but, as the savages are not adapted for long Expeditions, except when they are sustained and animated by Frenchmen, this has led Monsieur the Marquis de Vaudreuil and Monsieur begon to beg you, Monseigneur, to obtain from His Majesty an amnesty for the deserting Frenchmen, on condition that they will obey Monsieur de Louvigny and other officers ordered to carry out this Expedition. I will have it announced to them that all the rigor of the King's ordinance will be visited upon those who do not avail themselves of the clemency which you have had the goodness, Monseigneur, to obtain for them from His Majesty, to Expiate the fault of which they have been guilty.

It is Certain that the reynars have no retreat except among the muscoutins and the chicapoux, and that all the other savage nations are against them and are much more numerous; that if the puants, folles avoines, sakis, and malominis have not declared themselves openly against them, it is because they are the Reynars' nearest neighbors; and that if they once declared themselves, and we did not immediately move to their assistance, this proximity would be very dangerous for them. This is the language used by Oulamex,¹ one of the principal chiefs of these four nations, last July, to the Marquis de Vaudreuil, who was assured that they would join the other savages and the French whenever persuaded that it is our earnest intention to destroy them, or to humiliate them in such manner that they can not again trouble the other savage nations in the future. Far from running the Risk of losing this commerce, as you do me the honor of suggesting, Monseigneur, we ensure it by this means, as well as the repose and peace of all these nations.

To be assured of this truth it is only necessary to Examine the pitiable situation of the savage nations, who are dying of hunger in their cabins, not daring to leave them to go hunting on account of their well-grounded fear that the Reynards will destroy them all, one after the other. The merchants will have a gloomy confirmation of this, this year, on seeing how little peltry has come down to Michilimakinac. It might even be

¹Perhaps the same as Wilamak, name of a Pottawattomie chief mentioned in *N. Y. Colon. Docs.*, ix, p. 646.—Ed.