

Sieur de Louvigny will take with him Sieurs de l'Eschailions, Captain; La Perriere, Lieutenant; and de Contrecoeur, Ensign—whom Sieur de Vaudreuil has chosen as the men best suited for this enterprise. And to recompense these officers for the expense incurred in getting there, Sieurs de Vaudreuil and Begon allow them a boat, in order that there may accrue no expense to the King for their journey; and they allow two boats to Sieur de St. Pierre de Repentigny, on condition that he meet all the expenses necessary to deliver to Sieur Desliettes the presents intended for the Islinois. They also allow Sieur Dupuy two boats, on condition that he carry to detroit, in addition to the presents intended for the miamis, the merchandise which will be entrusted to him to use in buying all the provisions necessary for this enterprise. These provisions Sieur de Louvigny will send from Detroit to Michilimakina by the same boats that will convey the Soldiers in early spring; that will cause no delay as regards the arrival of these boats at Michilimakina, because they can leave Montreal two weeks earlier than those which will leave to go direct by the great [Ottawa] river.¹

It has been agreed that, in order to reëstablish the authority of the King and the honor of the French nation in the upper country, it is absolutely necessary to take all needful measures for making war there, so that the Savage Nations who learn of this may not doubt that we have this design—especially as we have for several years given them to understand that we were fully decided upon it.

However, Sieur de Louvigny intends to employ every possible means to make for the Savages, our allies, a glorious and advantageous peace. Accordingly, on his arrival at Michilimakina, he will learn from Sieur de Lignery what disposition all the Savage Nations have toward the Renards; and in accord with

¹The boats with the soldiers for Detroit would follow the route of the Great Lakes; those going direct from Montreal to Mackinac, would proceed by way of the Ottawa and Mattawan rivers, Lake Nipissing, and French river, into Georgian Bay of Lake Huron—the old waterway followed by Nicolet and the early French travelers. One would infer from this document that the river route was two weeks' shorter than by the lakes.—Ed.