

Sieur de lignery will be charged with this Expedition, as I know no one else who is better fitted for the enterprise, or who has more ascendancy over the savages, excepting Monsieur de Louvigny. He has been informed of the decisions of this council, and in conformity with them will march with the French who are at Michilimakinak, and with the savages of those quarters who are north of lake huron; my son will also do the same, as soon as the savages who go by land have joined him. They are to set out together to blockade the reynards before the end of August, and to attack them when all have arrived. As it was impossible to effect a junction of all these nations at michilimakinak, and as they could, moreover, not find subsistence there, since there are no provisions, we thought that the best expedient was to make this diversion.

I have received a letter from Monsieur de lignery, under date of June 5th last, in which he writes me that he will answer for subduing that nation, if they stay in Their fort. But he fears that they may take refuge among the aoyest [Iowas], three hundred leagues from the place where they are settled, and, after placing Their families in security among that nation, may return again to carry on the war and persist in Their insolence. For he has learned that a party of twenty-five reynards, in the month of June last, killed five Frenchmen, who were carrying corn to Michilimakinac, and who defended themselves with valor, killing three reynars, and wounding several others.

You will find enclosed, monseigneur, a Copy of the first Letter that I wrote to Monsieur de Lignery, dated April 1st, and my reply to his letter of June 5th in which I give him Entire Liberty to make war or peace according to the circumstances, in conformity with the arrangements made by Monsieur the Marquis de Vaudreuil with Monsieur de Louvigny before his departure, and with the orders he left me on embarking for France. God grant that this affair be terminated, in whatever manner, to the glory of the King and the advantage of the Colony; for otherwise the savages—our allies, would gradually be alienated either through Fear, or by the instigation of the English—who are trying by every means to introduce themselves among the outhaoua nations, by sending Collars and presents by savages acting as