

measles, it would have been possible to obtain more than 800 men from those two nations, as you will recognize, Monseigneur, by the letter of *Sieur de vinsenne*, a copy of which I have the honor to send you.

If *Monsieur de Lignery*, with four hundred men, French and savages, whom he had at *Michilimakinac*, had joined my son who had four hundred and fifty men, with two hundred men from *destroit*, the total would have amounted to nearly one thousand and one hundred men, a number large enough, perhaps, to force the *reynards* to sue for peace.

I have the honor, monseigneur, to send you copies of the letters of *Sieur dudoncour* and of my son, from which you will learn, Monseigneur, that *Monsieur de la Motte Cadillac* has reached the *caskusscas*, 30 leagues below the *Illinois*—well accompanied, and having two Spanish founders with him—to investigate the mines of gold and silver that have been discovered there. He Left his son with forty men to work there, after investigation had been made by the two Spaniards. *Sieurs de maunoir* and *dudoncour* learned this news from a Letter written to *Sieur de vinsenne* by the Reverend father *deville*, a jesuit missionary in the place where the mine has been discovered. It seems to me that it must be something valuable and genuine, since *Monsieur de la Motthe* has left so many men to work there.

I have the honor of giving you this information, monseigneur, which you will perhaps not receive this year from *maubille* [*Mobile*]; and I will add that I consider it very important to occupy the upper posts with a rather strong garrison, in order to maintain the savages in our alliance, and to prevent Them from trading with their English neighbors from *Carolina* and *virginia*—who, besides their desire to obtain peltries, would be all the more inclined to occupy those posts, attracted by the discovery of the mines. There would be also reason to fear that the *coureurs de bois* of *Canada*, attracted by these things, may become even more lawless than they are, which can only be prevented by having troops to restrain them. Accordingly, Monseigneur, I take the Liberty of reiterating, in connection with this news, the requests that I have had the honor of urging