

makinak; 10 men will be sent to Detroit; and 10 more to the Illinois; a very large number have died; and recruits are lacking, as only thirty Soldiers have come here during three years.

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The difficulties in the way of forbidding the trade in brandy with the savages of the upper country are explained in the letter of September 20 of last year, and remain this year the same as in the past—especially at fort frontenac, where Teganisorens and Nagoga arrived from orange with several Canoes laden with brandy de Rôme [rum]. This they traded for the greater part of the peltries that had been brought there by the Savages who are accustomed to trade at that post, where nothing has been done this Year.

Three Canoes of the Mississagès Savages who are Established at the end of Lake Ontario, about 100 Leagues from fort frontenac and 20 Leagues from Niagara, came down last May to Montreal, on the invitation of Sieur de St. Pierre, who passed the winter among them. None of the people of that nation had come down there for eight years. They told Sieur de Ramesay that what had prevented them from coming was the high price of the merchandise, and the refusal to trade in Brandy. They gave him a large and curiously wrought Calumet, which they promised to come and smoke every year; and they assured him that Onontio was still their father. They said that they preferred to trade with the French, to the Exclusion of the English, if the price of the merchandise fairly Corresponded to that of the English, and if they could also get Brandy, which they said they could not do without. They said that if they could not get it at fort frontenac, which they can reach in 4 or 5 days, they would go to Orange, although they would have to travel 70 Leagues by land.

It is all the more necessary to grant what these Savages ask, as it is in their Village that the English of Orange had planned to establish themselves, so as to be able to introduce themselves among the Outaouis nations. This they would have done but for the complaints which Sieur de Ramesay made to Mr. Hunter, governor of new York (as he has had the honor of informing you, Monseigneur, by the [ship] “la providence”). The