

1716: INDIAN AFFAIRS IN THE WEST.

[Proceedings of Council of Marine, Jan. 6, 1717; based on letter of Governor Vaudreuil, dated Oct. 14, 1716.¹ Translated from MS. in archives of Ministère des Colonies, Paris; press-mark, "Canada, Corresp. gén., vol. 37, c. 11, fol. 4."]

He has learned from Monsieur de Ramezay that the Outaouois savages and other Nations of the upper country who are allies of the French, Have since last year been very peaceably disposed, that their relations with each other have been amicable, and that they have the sentiments which they ought to have toward the Renards.

Sieur de Vincennes, the officer stationed among the Miamis and Ouyatanons, has reported that the Iroquois have sent those Nations Collars Underground,—that is to say, Secret messages,—by which they invited them to come and get what they need at a post established on *the Oyo River*,² which is a new settlement of the English of Carolina. They said that there they would find merchandise at half the prices asked by the French, who were tyrannizing over them.

Sieur de Vincennes Had the Miamis make the reply that from father to son they had been the Children of Onontio (this is the name which the Savages give to the Governor-general of Canada), and that they would not depart from their obedience to him.

The Ouyatanons have sent a young Slave to Sieur de Ramezay to reiterate the request they made to him last year to be present at their Councils, and to furnish a Missionary to teach them, and a blacksmith to repair their weapons.

Monsieur de Vaudreuil will provide what they ask, and will pay special attention to garrisoning all the posts. It is of the Utmost importance to establish those On the Southern frontier, where the English of Pensilvania, Carolina, and Virginia are anxious to introduce themselves, which would ruin the Commerce not only of Canada, but even of Louisiana, on account

¹Marginal note: "To be kept as a minute. L. A. B., pres."

²Marginal note: "This is the Ouabache river."