

even the young men, of my mission have been horrified that the Renards should thus invite them to declare themselves for that tribe against the upper nations—because that would be, they say, to declare themselves Against your children and their brothers. This will not prevent me, however, from giving myself the honor of writing to you something on this subject. “We have,” they say, “another war to Sustain, a just and necessary one, against the english, without consenting to enter upon another, which is both unjust and pernicious. We did very well to obey Monsieur de Vaudreuil, our father, 4 years ago, when Nenangounikou came to invite us on the part of those Renards to go in great numbers to their country, to eat the beaver’s tail there”—that means “to pursue our Hunting and make our abode there.” “Their fine message must amount to just this: we would there be engaged in their war, against all Nations.”

That, Monsieur, is what our young men, our old men, and I have understood. I can only testify to you anew my gratitude that you did actually stop them then, and that you made them descend from Montréal and return to our mission; for, if they had Followed the invitations of this Nenangousikou, the mission would have been greatly injured, and the greater part of our young men Would be now Like this Nenangousikou—both without Christianity and without affection for the french, in that country of the Renards. Allow me, accordingly, now to offer you anew my thanks, and to have the honor of assuring you that I am with profound respect, Monsieur,

Your very humble and very obedient Servant,

JOSEPH AUBRY, of the Society of Jesus,
Missionary.