

Thus, monsieur, I Believe that, in order to decide upon peace or upon war, we require to have news from You, As we have no positive Information respecting What Passes Among You, for we have received none this year.

The Journey that I have made to la baye will do no harm in either case. On The Contrary It has removed all distrust from Their minds. I am very glad to inform You of this so that Your people may be On Their guard. I earnestly request Monsieur de Villedonné to send You This Letter as soon as possible.

I have The Honor to be with respect, Monsieur, Your very humble and very obdient Servant,

DE LIGNERY.

AT LA BAYE, this 23rd of August, 1724.

1724: FOXES DEMAND THE RESTORATION OF THEIR CAPTIVES AMONG THE ILLINOIS; LACK OF CO-OPERATION AMONG FRENCH COMMANDANTS.

[Letters to commandant at Kaskaskia, written by Villedonné (Oct. 4), and Father Mesaiger¹ (Oct. 2 and 15). Source, same as that of preceding document, but fol. 261, 262, 268.]

MONSIEUR—Having succeeded in inducing ouâbessébau, the brother of the Chief of the Sakis at la baye, who is Settled in this Village—having succeeded, I Say, in concert with Monsieur de Villedonné, in inducing Him (in Accordance with The wishes of Messieurs The Commandants of michilimakina and of the post of la baye) to carry You These Letters, and to work Under Your orders, in Concert with Monsieur de Villedonné, at securing peace between the regnarts and the illinois, I have the honor to write to you begging You to treat him well, even

¹Charles Michel Mesaiger (Messenger) came to Canada in 1722, where he remained twenty-seven years, returning to France in 1749. Little is known of his labors, save that in 1731 he was at Michillimackinac, and then went with La Vérendrye on his explorations in the wilderness west of Lake Superior; having spent two years thus, he returned to Montreal on account of poor health.—*Ed.*