

lign[er]y, Independently of the acceptance or non-acceptance of the Renard. If Monsieur Is of opinion that War should be waged against that Cruel nation, he Informs you that he is Writing to France to the minister on the subject, for he cannot Allow the Killing of the French to go Unpunished. All the other tribes will be disposed to take part in the war with more ardor when they see the Renard placed entirely in the Wrong through the Restitution of His Slaves, with which he will Probably not be Content; and they will act Jointly with us to destroy him. Such, Monsieur, are the Contents of the Letters which should Reach you this winter. In case of accident, I take advantage of the present opportunity to Inform you of those Gentlemen's Intentions. If Ouabessebau, contrary to our expectations, should Retrace his steps Owing to some panic Dread, please have the kindness to act as if the letters of those gentlemen had Reached you; and, through Monsieur de Vincennes, Inform them, If it can be done, of the truth, and of the state of affairs in your country. I Commend myself to your Good Prayers and I Beg you to Believe me, with great respect,

[C.] M. MESAIGER.

At St. JOSEPH. This October 15th, 1724.

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1725: FRENCH SETTLEMENTS IN ILLINOIS ARE MENACED BY THE FOXES; AID FROM FRANCE REQUESTED.

[Letters from Du Tisné, dated Jan. 14, 1725. Source, same as that of preceding document, but fol. 259, 268.]

MONSIEUR—I have informed Messieurs De Lignery, Amariton, and Villedonné of the ill-treatment we receive from the Renards; and I am writing to them to Send you The Answer of Our savages. I was Surprised that those Gentlemen at la Baye should have concluded peace So soon; for Monsieur De Lignery writes me that he has Heard that five of our French have been killed. This report is only too true. He should or Can Suspend the peace. You Know, Monsieur, that, on account of that peace So hastily concluded, the chiefs are not masters of