

sentations have Imposed upon the French chiefs; we have therefore Decided that the peace with the Renards does not suit us. If it is a question of asking for peace, it is not Proper that the French should seek it. If the renard should ask for It, it might be granted to him, by compelling him to pay for the death of the French. It should be Represented to Monsieur Delignery that the peace he has made between the renards and the Lake tribes is hurtful to this province, and will undoubtedly break up its Trade with three or four nations against whom the renards had to defend Themselves. They will have only the illinois to Contend with, and the French, Their allies, will support Them.

Thirdly: If Monsieur Delignery, after Hearing these reasons, does not consider it his duty or that he has the power at once to break the peace that he has made Without awaiting a Response from Monsieur De Vaudreuil or from the Court, it will be necessary, at least pending the arrival of those answers, to compel the renard to Suspend hostilities against the Illinois during the entire spring and the following summer, in order that he may not make an attack On the Lands of the Illinois. And Monsieur Dutisné, on his side, could assure the Renard that The illinois will not Leave His own Territory to go to the other's lands; but will nevertheless be thoroughly on his guard In case the renard should enter Upon the Lands of the Illinois. During this truce there will be time to ascertain the facts, and to speak to all the Illinois chiefs. Some of these may be Sent, with certain Frenchmen, to parley and Agree upon the Terms of a firm and lasting peace—one of whose Principal articles should be, that whichever nation of the two might attempt to take up arms should at once be attacked by all the others who had Been witnesses to the Treaty.

Such, Monsieur, is the Opinion of both of us. We remain with profound respect,

BOULANGER and KEREKEN, Jesuits.

THOMUR, priest.

FROM THE CASKAKIAS, the 10th of January, 1725.¹

¹Jean le Boulenger (who evidently wrote this letter) labored in the Illinois mission (most of the time at Kaskaskia), from 1703 until at least 1729. Joseph François de Kereben came to Canada in 1716, and