

lect, the other illinois who might Know them being away on an inland hunting expedition.

“The Renards cannot Ignore or dispute what is stated here, both that they have Been the aggressors, and even that they have Induced several nations to come and kill us and to kill the French, our allies. Nor could the French chiefs on the Canada Side have been Ignorant of this; for the scalp dance has Been performed around their scalps and ours among the Mascoutins, quikapous, Renards, syoux, and everywhere around La bay. Thus the peace that was concluded at la bay has no other object than to harass us still more; for when they were At war with the nations They could not come in so Large numbers to destroy us—who have always Listened to the words of Ononthyo, through Monsieur de Boisbriant, forbidding us to go To War. Our heads have been Broken, and the French, our allies, have been killed on our lands. We defended ourselves, but we Never set out to seek them. Monsieur de Boisbriant has Left us Monsieur du Tisé; we Listen to his word; we deliberate only on what he tells us on ononthyo’s behalf. Thou tellest us that the renards are to come within a moon; that the French chiefs cannot bind their two arms; that they have bound their Left arm, but that the right one is to strike us. If they were true Children of nonthyo, would They not Obey his word? They accuse us of having deceived them; they cannot prove it. The French chiefs and the reverend father, who have directed us, will prove that we merely defended ourselves, and that They were The aggressors; and that we, our wives and Children, and our brothers the French, have Been their victims; and by these details we shall show thee The truth. And thou, chat blanc, thou who hast always acted honorably, and whose heart is Illinois and French, thou thyself knowest the truth of This. Accordingly, these two Calumets show thee that we obey only the will of ononthyo, our father; that thou mayest prove to the French Commandants both of la bay and missilimaquinak, and of the river St. Joseph, that we attack only because we do what Monsieur tisé tells us; It is he who deliberates for us. But as regards the threats of the Renards, we shall be on our Guard When they come to Affront us on our lands, to kill us and the French—as is set forth in the following List: