

Collars who have always Governed us. That is the way, our ally, that we are treated. Ask thy allies, who are our kindred and the friends of ononthyo, not to strike us and our brothers, the French.”

C. C. DU TISNE.

AT FORT DE CHANTRE this 14th January, 1725.

1726: DE LIGNERY MAKES A TEMPORARY PEACE WITH FOXES;
POLICY OF THE FRENCH TOWARD THAT TRIBE.

[From a MS. in Quebec Provincial archives, copied from a MS. in Paris archives.¹]

The nation of the Renards has been at all times the enemy of the other savage nations of the upper country; these savages have on different occasions killed Frenchmen. Upon the representations which were made on this subject, in 1711 [*sic*; probably 1714], by Monsieur de Vaudreuil, that it was absolutely necessary to take measures to destroy them, orders were issued from the court to maintain some kind of peace with them—without, meanwhile, compromising the honor of the nation—and at the same time to proceed as if preparing for war; and to reassemble for this purpose the coureurs de bois at Michilimackinac, granting them an amnesty on this account.

The following year, these savages having again committed several lawless acts, Sieur de Louvigny was detailed from Montreal on the 1st of May, 1716, with 429 Frenchmen, in order to proceed against them; He drove them into their strongholds, and constrained them to ask for peace—on conditions so onerous that he believed they would not accept them. Among the principal articles were these—that they should keep peace with all the savage nations who were dependent upon the King; that they should bind their allies, the Kikapous and Mascoutins,

¹This is apparently a resumé (intended for the use of the Council of Marine, or of the Minister) of affairs in 1726 relating to the Fox-Illinois war. Documents giving detailed accounts of these events were published in *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, iii, pp. 148-160.—Ed.