

off the Renards from the route by the St Joseph River and Detroit, in case they should wish to go to the Iroquois, who had offered them an asylum. He stated that these were the purposes he had in mind in proposing peace to them, in order to proceed to extreme measures more easily, if they should not keep their promise; since if they forfeited that, it would be necessary to take the most rigorous measures to destroy them by force of arms, assembling the troops of the two Colonies. He also declared that these savages are quite satisfied at present that the peace will not be broken; and that Ouachala, principal chief of the Renards, and the other chiefs have made their compatriots fully understand this, saying, "We now hold the Frenchman by the hand; but if he escapes from us, we are lost."

He notified *Sieur Desliettes* to send back the Renard prisoners, as he had told their chiefs that he would act toward them as they did toward the French; and he added that, if all went well, in a year he would agree to have an interview at Chicagou, at le Rocher, or at la Baie between the Canadian tribes, those of Louisiana, the Illinois, and the tribes of la Baie. For this conference he would appoint a time, and a rendezvous where the leaders should assemble; and would build a fort, and at the same time fix the number of French and Savages who should be present.

Monsieur the Marquis de Beauharnais confirms the news of this peace, and states that it will be advantageous to strengthen it in order to avoid war, the success of which, however fortunate it might be, would be very expensive to the two Colonies. He says that his desire, and that of *Sieurs de Longueil* and *de Lignery*, is to terminate the war between the Renards and the Illinois, by making alliances between these two nations; and that it will not be at all necessary on this account to abandon the purpose of detaching, if possible, the Sioux from the interests of the Renards; also that he will take measures with *Monsieur Dupuy*¹ to send missionaries to the Sioux. He has learned through *Monsieur de Lignery* that since the promise which the Renard, Saki, and Puan chiefs gave him at la Baie

¹Claude Thomas Dupuy, intendant of Canada from August, 1726, to September, 1728.—Ed.