

The Sieur de Lignery wrote at the same time to the Sieur Desliettes, the Commandant of the Company in the Illinois country¹ to inform him of what he had done.

That letter states, amongst other things, that the Chiefs of those three Nations are well-intentioned and are fully aware that they can hope for no further mercy unless they obey; that it is necessary to detach the Scioux nation from its alliance with the Renards by leading them to expect some presents; finally to bar the Renards' passage by the River St. Joseph and Detroit in the event of their seeking to join the Iroquois who have offered them an asylum.

He says that this is what he had in view in proposing peace to them in order the better to overcome them should they not keep their word; because, if they failed to keep it, it would be necessary to take the surest means to destroy them by force of arms, uniting the troops of both Colonies.

He remarks that these savages are now convinced that this will certainly happen, and that Ouachala, the great Chief of the Renards, and the other Chiefs have made their countrymen understand it clearly, saying: "We still hold the Frenchman by the hand, but if he escape us we are lost."

He notifies the said Sieur Desliettes to send back the captive Renards, having told their Chiefs to do the same with such Frenchmen as they might make prisoners.

And he adds that If all goes well in a year he will agree to have, at Chicagou or at le Rocher of la Baye,² a meeting of the Canadian tribes, those of Louisiana, the Illinois and the nations of la Baye whom he will notify of the date of the rendezvous;

¹Charles Henry Desliettes de Tonty, nephew of La Salle's lieutenant, Henri de Tonty, was commandant at Fort Chartres in Illinois from 1726-30. Other relatives by the same name (the maternal family of de Tonty) were prominent in early French Illinois. See Wallace, *Illinois and Louisiana under French Rule* (Cincinnati, 1893); also *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xvi, index.—Ed.

²Chicagou was an Indian site, about the same place as the present city of Chicago. Le Rocher is the famous rock of that name on the Illinois river—the document is here defective; "le Rocher de la Baye" should be "le Rocher ou la Baye," la Baye being the ordinary French