

mands at Michilimakinac has reported that the chiefs of the Sakis, of the Puants, and of the Renards have promised him not Only to put an end to the war that they were waging against the Illinois, but also to induce their allies to do the same. So that by sending an officer in the Spring to La pointe on Lake Superior, we may prepare to Establish a post where we have already occupied one.¹ And he by means of a few presents, and by opening a Trade with the Savages of that Quarter, will form connections, and gradually dispose those Savages [the Renards] to abandon the War against the Illinois, and divert them from going to detroit as they had intended to do to seek an asylum among the Iroquois.

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1727: MISSIONARIES FOR THE SIOUX DESIRE ASTRONOMICAL INSTRUMENTS

[Letter from Marquis de Beauharnois to the French Minister, dated Apr. 30, 1727. Translated from a document in Quebec provincial archives, transcribed from a MS. in Paris archives.]

The Reverend Jesuit fathers who are to go among the Sioux, ask for mathematical instruments. Those which are in their establishment, and which belong to the King will serve their purpose until His Majesty sends others for Quebec, namely: a case of mathematical instruments, a dial plate of universal astronomy, a graduated semi-circle with the degrees indicated, a spirit level, a chain with stakes, and a telescope six or seven feet long, (this telescope does not belong to the king, but they take one from their establishment, and request another from the king to replace it).

It would be well, Monseigneur, if they could receive these

¹For the previous occupation of a post at "La Pointe," in Chequamegon Bay, see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xiii, pp. 410, 411; xvi, p. 380.—Ed.