

Messenger,<sup>1</sup> the Missionary at the river St Joseph, giving him the same news that The Savage has brought me with the exception of a few details. This leads us to believe that the thing is true. Theoux here seem very determined to go, and so are a party of ouïtawas; but only a few of the hurons, because eighty remained of the party who marched in the Spring. Nevertheless five of them arrived eight days ago who brought a scalp from the Chicachias;<sup>2</sup> but it is hoped that the others may rejoin the army because they are supposed to be now near the ouïatanons According to the route by which they said they would Come. It Would be a good And sure Reinforcement. The renards have also Said that they expected shortly a strong party of Iroquois, who were coming to join them to facilitate the passage and to enable them to Withdraw into the Iroquois country. They have perhaps said this to Frighten the other tribes, but it is very Certain, Monsieur, that the iroquois Are great scoundrels, and that they daily Scatter collars among all the tribes who Are Stirred up by the English and who Are very much opposed to us. If our people start I find myself obliged to give them powder and ball as they have already given me to Understand; but I shall do so with all the discretion in my power. If the news turns out true, and should any fight of any consequence occur, I shall take the liberty of sending a special messenger to give you news of it, for I think that this is the last courier who will leave from here this year.

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<sup>1</sup>Armand de la Richardie, Jesuit missionary to the Huron at Detroit, was born in 1686, came to Canada in 1725, and in 1728 was assigned to the Huron mission, where he remained until about 1753. He died at Quebec in 1758. For sketch of Father Mesaiger (Messenger), see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xvi, p. 446.—Ed.

<sup>2</sup>The Chickasaw, a Southern tribe, whose villages were in what is now Tennessee and northern Mississippi and Alabama; they were hostile to the French and to the French Indians.—Ed.