

out our assistance—an Evil that would doubtless be still greater than it is to day.

I also include the Good of the Trade which the Savages interrupt, And finally the precautions that must be taken to Prevent their joining the iroquois, who have offered them a refuge; and as they would have common interests, they would not fail to make use of one another to glut the hatred they bear us.

To what would we then be reduced, And what ruinous wars would we not be compelled to wage?

It is Needless to explain How These English would work more effectively to deprive us of all our advantages, and How the insolence of the Iroquois would thwart the most judicious Steps that we might take. To these Considerations, I might add the revolt of the indians near Mobile¹ that has remained unpunished; the manner in which our allies among the ilinois are continually disturbed; the fact that Those of lake Erie, lake huron And Michigan are weary of bearing alone the burden of the war; And finally the disgust that our settled savages feel at our Conduct; these are Matters Calculated to make Us rightly Fear that we may be completely abandoned by all those Nations.

Imperceptibly Contempt takes the place of the esteem we have enjoyed; and all the Nations which hold men in Regard only in so far as they know how to carry on war, will end by insulting us, when they are at last Convinced that they can do so with impunity.

Since 1728 our allies have been waiting for orders from the Court to march once more Against the Renards. The hurons and the Outawas of detroit, whom I Commanded, have caused father de la richardie to write to me several times that they Were ready to follow me. The Iroquois settled at Montreal have come to see me many times about This matter. They do not ask to have a large Number of French at their head; they will be content with seeing a few. And it would be right to

¹ This probably refers to the uprising of the Natchez, and the massacre at Fort Rosalie, in 1729. Incidentally, also, it helps to date this document, since it must have been written after Nov. 29, 1729, and before January, 1731, when Perier, the governor of Louisiana, severely punished these Indians.—Ed.