

would be very easy when the King's Ship arrives early as it did this year.¹

That, as regards the post of detroit and in order also to prevent the English from Trading with the savages, it would be important to carry out the views that prevailed when the fort was first Established, beginning by putting a strong garrison there to enable the Commandant to maintain order and make himself respected by the French and by the savages.

That the proper way to prevent intercourse between the savages and the English would be to compel the Miamis and Ouyatanons to go to detroit for what they need by not allowing the Voyageurs to take the same to them. But, they think, it is to be feared that the English may go to the savages, who would receive them, in the belief that the French had abandoned them; and it is beyond a doubt that if we abandon a single one of our posts, the English will at once establish themselves there. Thus, they think it more expedient to strengthen those we have than to weaken them by compelling one Nation to go to another for what it needs, all the more so that it seems to them dangerous to gather the various savage nations together in one spot lest they might disagree.²

The Ouyatanons were brought into the Government of Louisiana by the Sieur de Vincennes who has completely removed himself from the jurisdiction of the Government of Canada. In order to force that Nation to return to the Miamis to obtain what it needs, Monsieur de Beauharnois had at first proposed to allow no Voyageur to go in that Direction. This would have been carried out had he not been compelled to grant such permission to certain Frenchmen to induce them to convey Missionaries to the Tamarois who took a quantity of Goods which they will trade at the old post in the usual way.³

The Sieur de Boishébert, who went up to Detroit last Summer to take command, carries on no Trade whatever there and

¹ Marginal notes on MS.: "What is asked for is being sent regularly."
"Monsieur Hocquart can well supply these two posts."

² Marginal note on MS.: "Approved."

³ Marginal note on MS.: "Approved."