

I have the honor to be with very profound respect, Monseigneur, Your very humble and very obedient servant

BEAUHARNOIS

QUEBEC, October 1st, 1731.

P. S. Although I have had the honor to Send you the details of the defeat of the Renards, I append a Copy to this Letter.

1731: POST OF DETROIT

[Extract of a letter from Beauharnois to the French Minister, dated, Oct. 1, 1730. MS. in archives of Ministère des Colonies, Paris; press-mark, "Canada, Corresp. gén., vol. 57, c. 11, fol. 227."]

Monsieur de Beauharnois Sends the Plans of Detroit drawn up by the Sieur de Boishébert, the Commandant of that Post. They are annexed hereto.

That officer reached his post about the end of the month of October, 1730. He found the Establishment but little advanced considering that it was commenced over 30 years ago. He made a Map of it from Lake Erie to Sainte Claire. He also made a plan of the settlements and by means of that Map and of that Plan we are in a position to know that quarter and what can be Done there.¹ The Climate is fine, the Lands are very good and can produce everything that grows in France in the province of Guienne. After his arrival he had nothing more at heart than to induce the French to till the Soil. They have sowed much more seed than usual and the harvest will be at least double what it has been in former years.

Those who had charge of this Establishment at the beginning reserved, in the locality where they placed it, only a small piece of Land for the French and even that is the worst part, and they ceded the best land to the Savages; so that if this

¹Marginal note on MS.: "Good we are convinced that this officer will do his best to place this Establishment on the footing on which it should and must be."