

applause. Nothing else was thought of except the presents that were to be sent in exchange for those that had been sent them, and of deputing the persons who were to bear them. All this was done, but what has been the result? Have the Abenakis rejected the word of the Renards? Have the Renards accepted that of the Abenakis? Why lose time in seeking to investigate this latter point? The continual hostilities that have been carried on for many years between the French and the Renards show clearly enough that the latter were not touched by the word of the Abenakis, even supposing that it had been carried to them. But did the Abenakis, after having at first received the word of the Renards, reject it afterwards? The following facts will enable a safe judgment to be formed thereon.

About two years after these messages two thirds of the Abenakis nation were on the verge of departure to take refuge in the country of the Renards, and this was at the beginning of the time when war was about to break out between the Abenakis and the English. When the Missionary learned the plot that was secretly formed, he promptly warned the late Monsieur de Vaudreuil, then Governor general of this country, who fortunately warded off the blow. Not *five years* have elapsed since the Abenakis made a second attempt to carry out their original design. The Chief of the St François Mission, who was hostile to the French, had taken his measures so well that his plans would inevitably have succeeded had not God removed him from this world by a death as sudden as it was tragic. I know not who gave notice to the Court of the Alliance of the Abenakis with the Renards; I know not in what light that alliance was represented nor the proofs that were adduced. All that has come to my knowledge is, that the Court—which does not act without being fully informed—paying no heed to the former devotion of the Abenakis to the French people, nor relying in any way upon the benefits it had conferred upon that barbarous Nation to the extent almost of prodigality, has forbidden their being employed on the expeditions that are being sent against the Renards.

A year after the message of the Renards was brought to the