

the remainder of the detachment have also expressed the greatest Willingness, as well as our settled savages (to the number of two hundred) who have asked to be allowed to march even if no French should go.

The Sieur de Beauharnois has selected the Sieur de Noyelles to command the party. That officer is very Efficient and is greatly loved by the Savages, And he Adds to these qualities a Constitution capable of Enduring the fatigues of an Expedition which can be undertaken only in a very inclement season, for it will be necessary to proceed a very great distance on foot and on Snow-shoes. The other officers and the remainder of the detachment are Capable of Following him.

The Sieur de Noyelles left Montreal on the 14th of August last with his detachment. He is ordered by his Instructions to proceed in the first place to detroit, and there to concert with the Sieur Peau, The other officers, and the nations at that post regarding the proper action to be taken on arriving at the spot whither the Sakis and Renards have retired; to direct his route by Missilimakinac or in a straight line overland according to Circumstances; and, in the latter case, he is to agree upon a rendezvous with the Sieur de celoron, the Commandant at Missilimakinac, where the latter may join him with the Savages of his Post, and a party of our settled Algonquins And Nepisingues who have started And who are to proceed to the said post by the way of the great River.¹ He has also been strongly recommended to keep On His guard to Avoid All Ambuscades and not to Expose his forces except when very necessary.

The Sieur de Beauharnois should Also inform His Majesty that inasmuch as a considerable portion of the Outaïacs of Missilimakinac who are one of the nations most Interested in the matter, are of Opinion and they have stated that they would like to have the matter settled by conciliatory measures with the Sakis upon the latter giving up the Renards, whom the Outawacs look upon as the sole cause of the troubles in the

¹The route by the Ottawa River and Lake Nipissing, through Georgian Bay and Lake Huron to Mackinac.—Ed.