

ceeded in totally destroying them. The success of the measures I had taken for inflicting the punishment they deserve seemed certain but, in addition to the fact that the Savages of the party completely refused to obey, the Outawacs of Mississimakinac—who were to Join the Sieur de Noyelle under the Command of the Sieur de Celoron to whom I had sent orders accordingly with a convoy of Thirty Nipissingues and Algonkins to Join the French and Outawacs, and who had, moreover, come expressly to ask me to avenge the blow struck by the Sakis and Renards at la Baye—completely changed their minds when they returned home, and told the Sieur de Celoron that they did not wish to war against the Sakis, whom they looked upon as their brothers; that their thoughts were not as They had told me; and finally that they were of opinion that the Sakis should be granted their lives on condition that they would induce the Renards to come and place themselves at the mercy of their Father as They had promised Him; that they begged him to forgive the Sakis; that for Their part they wished to Live in peace and to hunt for the subsistence of their wives and Children. This Unexpected change in the Savages, and the conduct of Those who went with the Sieur de Noyelle proves how little reliance can be placed on minds so variable and so wanting in docility.

The ardor they displayed at first and the particular interest that the Outawacs took in the affair of la Baye, were motives that seemed powerful enough to prevent any change taking place in these savages; but I have found by experience that it is difficult to bring any matter to a conclusion when the bands of Savages are superior in number to the French. This Drawback, Monseigneur, and the Insubordination of the Savages of the party that followed the Sieur de Noyelle against the Renards, compelled that officer to have recourse to conciliatory means with the Sakis, as he was not strong enough to subdue them, and he had no Provisions. Nevertheless his attitude after compelling the Sakis and Renards to retire into their fort, and the words that he said to the former on my behalf respecting the pardon that I granted them on condition that they separated