

had already informed of my march When I left the Ouyatanons.

I had resolved, Monsieur, after holding a Council with the French and the savages, to pass by the Illinois as I had received no news from Monsieur de Celoron, although this took me a good deal out of my way. But having been detained by the ice for 22 Days; being moreover without Provisions And unable to obtain any from anywhere, I was compelled to take the route that I followed. When I left the Kikapous, I detached the Sieurs de la Perade and St Ours¹ with several Iroquois and Kikapous to reconnoitre. They captured five Sakis (one of whom was a chief). There was a Renard with Them who escaped. They ran after Him, calling out in the Illinois tongue so that he might say in his village that he had been pursued by Illinois. The Prisoners told me that they were proceeding to the River St Joseph to speak to their People and ascertain whether it was true that their Father Onontio intended to grant them their lives; that they had been assured of this by a Nepissing with the Chat blanc,² their chief, who had come to Them and had gone to the Scioux to ask Monsieur de St Pierre³ whether They could trust that news. They told me that the Renards were no longer at la Pomme de Cigne and that they had withdrawn to the Rivière sans fourche.⁴ I have the honor

¹ Charles François Xavier Tardieu, Sieur de la Pérade, de la Nau-dière, was born in 1710. In 1743 he married Geneviève Deschamps, daughter of Boishébert. He was ensign, 1724-41; lieutenant, 1742; captain, 1750. In 1747 he commanded at the Ouyatanon post, and served at the siege of Quebec in 1759. He went to France after the capitulation of Quebec; but returned in 1763, and was a member of the first legislative council under English domination in 1775, dying the same year. One of his sons was killed in the battle of Monongahela, 1755. St. Ours was either a son or nephew of Deschaillons, ensign in 1733, lieutenant in 1744, and captain in 1748. If the son of Deschaillons, he was later the brother-in-law of Pérade, marrying Charlotte Deschamps in 1745.—Ed.

² For account of this noted chief who lived at St. Joseph, and his embassy to the Illinois, see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xvi, pp. 448, 453-463.—Ed.

³ St. Pierre was commandant of Fort Beauharnois, 1734-37.—Ed.

⁴ La Pomme de Cigne, or "swan-apple," is the French form of the Indian name for the Wapsipinicon River, so called from a species of