

tablish in the Upper countries, and the condition of affairs required mild and moderate means to be preferred on an occasion involving neither the honor of the French nation nor the King's arms, and arising merely out of a simple fray between some drunken young Ouitanons and two or three Voyageurs, in an affair of trade. The proceedings and resolution of the French of Detroit to wreak vengeance for the insult perpetrated on these Voyageurs, have not been unknown to all the Nations, and may, in like manner, help to restrain those of that quarter. In fine, it has not been until after having weighed all these considerations and the unfortunate consequences this affair might involve, which M. de Beauharnois has just explained, that he deemed it prudent, and of infinite importance to the good of the Colony, to grant the Ouitanons the pardon they asked of him, rather than aggravate the troubles of the Upper country, by acting in direct opposition to the views he entertains of reëstablishing peace, the object so strongly recommended to him.

In regard to the Scioux, Sieur [St.] Pierre, who commanded at that post, and Father Guignas, the Missionary, have written to Sieur de Beauharnois on the 10th and 11th of April last, that these Indians appeared well intentioned towards the French, and had no other fear than that of being abandoned by them. Sieur de Beauharnois annexes an extract of these letters; and although the Scioux seem very friendly, the result only can tell whether their fidelity is to be absolutely depended on, for the unrestrained and inconsistent spirit which composes the Indian character, may easily change it. They have not come down this summer, as yet, but M. de St. Pierre is to get them to do so next year, and to have an eye on their proceedings.

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M. de Beauharnois gave an account last year of the affair of the Chicachas, and since that time has not received any news from M. de Bienville.

We are with most profound respect, My Lord, Your most
humble and obedient Servants,

BEAUHARNOIS
HOCQUART

QUEBEC, October 12th, 1736.