

Be very well satisfied with the reports he sends me. In addition to his zeal for the service, he possesses an Eminent quality, that is disinterestedness,—a quality so necessary, especially at that Place, that I thought I could not do better.

I have Considered, Monseigneur, what you have been pleased to write me regarding His Majesty's views with reference to that post. I will take the Liberty of expressing my Ideas in a private Despatch.

I will continue, Monseigneur, to give my best attention in the Selection I shall make of the Commandants to be Sent to the Posts.

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I remain etc.

BEAUHARNOIS

QUEBEC, October 14th, 1737.

1737: THE SIOUX POST ABANDONED

[Letter of St. Pierre to Beauharnois. Translated from a transcript in Margry, *Découv. et établ.*, vi, pp. 575-580.]

Relation of the sieur de Saint Pierre, commandant of the post in the Sioux country, appended to the letter of Monsieur, the marquis de Beauharnois.

14th October, 1737.

On the 6th of May, 1736, fifty four Sioux warriors passed in front of the fort, where a portion of them stopped. The sieur de Saint Pierre asked them whither they were going. They told him that they were taking back a female slave belonging to the Puans, who had sought refuge amongst them. He said that it did not require so many men to take charge of one woman. They replied that they were going to hunt turkeys, in order to get feathers for their arrows. The Puans did their best to stop them. They continued their route, and meeting two Frenchmen at the little River of the Illinois in the Mississippi country, they killed and scalped them. While the sieur de Saint Pierre was erecting another fort about 25 leagues