

French Regime in Wisconsin

have killed one of Them, which causes us much grief and Embarrasses us greatly.

I will tell you, my Father, that we have no share in this wicked affair, And that none of our young men were concerned in it. All were of the Band of Mekaga, who has gone down to Montreal, to see our Father Onontio.

We have learned that he Is not pleased with our Being here; but we are not, however, doing any wrong here, as we have only come here to provide for our families who would meet with hardships elsewhere.

You have perhaps been told, my Father, that we see the Scioux,—this is only for the purpose of Keeping them from attacking the French And our allies. They have told us that they Were very sorry because of the bad things which their young men have done, And that if they believed that you would be willing to Listen to them they would come to see you.

My Father, we are ready to do the will of Onontio, And to return to our former Territory, but we have not, as he has, the same authority over our young warriors. We are going to Labor with them, And I hope that this Spring you will have reason to Be satisfied.

Words of the Sakis, on January 22, 1739.

My Father, we have not failed, on our arrival, to say to all our people that our Father Onontio wished that we should rekindle our fire at La Baye, our former Village. The majority would not Like to go there, as they say that the Puants, who passed The Summer there, Had great difficulty in subsisting, and that there are no longer any Crops, fishing or hunting to be had there, because it is a soil that can no longer produce anything, Being Stained with French blood and with our own. However we are going to try to Persuade them to move this Spring, And to Listen to the word of Our Father.

Words of Mekaga, a Renard chief with four warriors, on January 31.

My Father, if I have so long delayed in coming to see you, it is because of the shame And grief that I feel because our young