

start by the inspection I had had made by Monsieur the Major and his assistants; as the men had no Shoes and no other food than Corn. Matters remained in that position. Moreover, it would have been useless to Continue the expedition in the Condition in which we found ourselves, whereof Monsieur the Major will inform you, Monsieur, and I also when I shall have the honor of seeing you, unless we wished to Expose all the French of our party to perish. I returned to the middle village where I found an old Slave woman whom the Outaouas had captured. I had her questioned by Ouilamek and she stated that the Renards had departed four nights before and that they had more than a hundred canoes in which they put the old men, the women and children while all the warriors followed on foot on the banks to protect them. Consequently, Monsieur, the nations no longer spoke of going after them and some even told me that it would be useless. At the time I thought of nothing but bringing back the army which—the savage portion at least—had obtained ample supplies of Indian Corn. I caused fire to be set to the four villages, and all the scattered Cabins to be Burned, also all the Corn to be cut of which there was so great a quantity that one could not believe it without seeing. I also had the village of the Puants burned. Thus, Monsieur, terminated our Expedition which will be no less advantageous to the glory of the King and the welfare of both Colonies, inasmuch as one-half those people will die of hunger. I have the honor of informing you, Monsieur, that before leaving the Renards' country, I sent five Frenchmen through the Woods to the scioux. I gave them as guides two folles avoines who had come from there this year. They have been well paid, and I trust they will take our Frenchmen to their destination in safety, I informed Monsieur de Boucherville and Reverend Father Guignas of all that we had done, and I told them to strive to win the scioux to their interests by assuring them that if they gave the Renards refuge amongst Them, they would bring upon themselves a War with all the nations; also to consider what was the best thing they could do, to remain or to return by la pointe; that they were to be