

runt the latter and break the peace they have made with the Scioux, and, with that object, join the Sauteux of Sault Ste. Marie or Kamanistigouia, who have planned to continue their war against the Scioux as I am informed and as I have The honor to Explain further on.

Father Coquart, who has returned from the post of Kamanistigouia, Writes me on the 9th of last month, That, while the Sieur de la Verendrye's people Were at the grand portage,<sup>1</sup> the Sauteux of that Post came there to hold a Council with a Savage Chief of that Place, a very influential man; That last Spring that Chief told him he Had determined to strike a blow at the Scioux; That he had made many representations to him, telling him that this Was acting directly in opposition to my orders; That the result of the various councils that were held, Was that the Sauteux of la Pointe de Chagouamigon (who came down to Montreal last Summer to confirm the Peace they had made with the Scioux) were to mislead them during a portion of the winter by living on good terms with Them; That the Scioux, thinking themselves at peace and suspecting nothing, would suddenly find their Enemies on their Hands; That that Chief with the people of Népigon, Kamanistigouia, Tekamamiouene, Monsonis, Cristinaux, and Assiniboels, are to fall on them, and Slaughter as many of them as they can; That they are fully resolved to destroy them in spite of all that can be done to Prevent it; That that Chief is a man of decision whose intrepidity produces an impression on the others; That he had told him last spring the Scioux Were good only to be eaten,

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<sup>1</sup>At the mouth of Kaministiquia River, on Thunder Bay, Duluth built a stockade fort as early as 1678. This was re-established by La Noue in 1717, and maintained until the close of the French regime. It commanded one route to the great series of northern lakes and rivers which La Vérendrye was attempting to thread. An easier but longer passage was by way of Pigeon River, a short distance below Kaministiquia. This latter route was known as the Grand Portage—a term later applied to the locality on Lake Superior.—Ed.