

tiplied instead of obviated had I endeavored to break off the union between those Nations rather than allow it to subsist, because, as I have taken the liberty of pointing out to you, Monseigneur, if the change in the Sioux be apparent only, We are not in Position to make them more sincere by force; and if, on the other Hand, the Renards are dissembling their resentment and have no other objects in view than the steps they have taken to unite with the Sioux, any precautions on my part to Prevent this would be useless; and, as a final reflection, I would add that if no reliance can be placed on the promises of the Renards, much less could any be placed on those they might make to break off their friendship with a Nation such as the Sioux, whom they Look upon as a safe refuge if they have any evil designs, and against whom it is very far from their interest to declare themselves.

The considerations I have just had the honor to present to you, Monseigneur, with regard to those savages, lead me to Hope that you will approve my conduct Respecting them, and I venture to assure you that if I had the means of imposing a law on them and of making them observe it, there would be nothing to fear from their dissimulation or their resentment. In any case I will have the Renards' actions closely watched, and I have given my orders in consequence to the Sieur de Lusignan whom I have Sent in the place of the Sieur Marin. Those savages as well as the Sakis are all assembled at the place indicated to them by that officer with the exception of ten Cobins that are at Chikagou and two at Meloaky [Milwaukee]. I have the honor to append the speeches of those Nations and the answers I gave them in the same council wherein I assembled them all Expressly to settle the affair that had occurred on the part of the Ouassés Sautaux¹ of Kamanistigouia with Regard to the Sioux, Sakis and Renards. They all went away satisfied, the

¹For a description of this Chippewa tribe, whose usual habitat was between the Michipicoten and Nipigon rivers, see Thwaites, *Early Western Travels*, ii, p. 134.—Ed.