

1743: EXPENSES FOR THE FOXES AND SIOUX; MARIN'S SERVICES<sup>1</sup>

[Extract from a letter of Beauharnois to the French Minister, dated Oct. 13, 1743. Source, same as preceding document, but fol. 167.]

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MONSEIGNEUR—I am really mortified, Monseigneur, that you are sorry to see the expenses for the Savages increasing every year. I venture, however, to assure you that I contract them only in cases where the Service absolutely requires it; and the greater or lesser importance of the matters of which I have to treat with the different Nations can not render this expense other than shifting, increasing or diminishing According to circumstances. I know, Monseigneur, that the presents were considerable last year on account of those I had to make to the Sioux, Sakis, and Renards, which I had the honor of reporting to you. The motives of their coming and the advantages we may Hope from the promises which they have made to me, Required that I should send them away content, which can only be accomplished in this Way. Although these as well as other Savages Have come down this Summer in great numbers, presents of this sort will not amount to nearly as much as they did last year, If, as I naturally presume, no other expenses are Included with them; and I Beg you to believe that, as far as I am concerned, nothing is Included except what I can not refuse for the good of the Service.

I had the honor of informing you, Monseigneur, in my communication of September 16, in regard to the disposition in which the Sioux, as well as the Sakis and Renards, continue to remain, and I have nothing further to add.

As regards the Sieur Marin, I had anticipated the intentions of His Majesty, in giving to the Sieur de Lusignan the Command of the Post at La Baye, for which I had destined the former, less with a view of having him profit by the advantages

<sup>1</sup>The first part of this letter, relating to the mission Indians and the Iroquois, is found in *N. Y. Colon. Docs.*, ix, pp. 1095-1099.—Ed.