

the Sieur de la Verendrye to spare no Effort, not only to Maintain peace amongst the western Nations, but also to Induce them to make some incursions against the English in that country and I have given the same Orders in the other Posts. But whatever precautions and care may be taken to restrain those savages, it is rather difficult to Prevent the hatred they have borne one another for a great many years from manifesting itself occasionally by slight acts of Treachery which they commit Amongst themselves and which happen at the very moment they are supposed to be reconciled judging by appearances and by their mutual promises. Such was the conduct of some Sioux last winter toward the sauteurs of la pointe de Chagouamigon one of whose men they killed in the Winter quarters while they sent another back to the village after cutting off his ears. I have taken every precaution to Endeavor to stay the consequences of this affair, But as soon as we have succeeded in settling it, perhaps some other deed will be committed in another direction, either by some Giddy-pates while intoxicated, or by restless Spirits, in which the villages take no part. This leads me to take the liberty of telling you that we cannot Entirely congratulate ourselves on maintaining a very lasting peace amongst those Nations, nor on Completely Removing from their minds, the hatred they have of one another, especially the western Nations, who cannot forget a former act of treachery whereof the Sioux were guilty against them and the memory whereof they have promised one another to retain for ever. In any case, Monseigneur, I have everything done that is possible in order to keep them in restraint as far as I can, and the subject is of too great importance to allow of my neglecting anything that may depend on me.

I will comply, Monseigneur, with what His Majesty is pleased to recommend to me Regarding the farming of the Posts. I have already had the honor of telling you that I would take, in what concerns me, all the precautions in my power to obviate the drawbacks I Foresaw in the farming of those Posts. I should be much pleased, Monseigneur, were none to arise.