

## Wisconsin Historical Collections [vol. xvii]

### 1747: REVOLT OF INDIANS OF THE UPPER COUNTRY

[Extracts from the diary of events for the year 1747, sent by the governor and intendant of New France to the French Minister. Reprinted from *N. Y. Colon. Docs.*, x, pp. 99-130.]

May 21st. The most of the voyageurs destined for the [Indian] posts are actually arrived at Montreal and ready to start. We have great reluctance to interpose to the Upper country trade any obstacles whereby the Colony would be deprived of a considerable commerce. But this profit does not enter into any comparison with the preservation of the country, for in saving the Colony we save all; therefore, we shall not hesitate to issue orders at Montreal to employ in M. Rigaud's detachment<sup>1</sup> these voyageurs, or at least such of them as have deferred their departure; except, only, we add, the canoes of the West sea,<sup>2</sup> of the Ouyatonons and of the Miamis.

May 29th. The merchants of Montreal are very reasonable on the subject of the postponement of the departure of their canoes for the Upper country. None of them expect to get away before we receive some favorable news. The majority of the voyageurs destined for these canoes are daily employed in the different detachments sent out in pursuit of the Mohawks.

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June 21st. By the same courier we receive letters from

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<sup>1</sup> Arnaud de Rigaud, brother of the Marquis de Vandreuil, later governor of Canada, was born in 1705. He was a famous partisan leader, and his expeditions both in King George's War (1744-48) and the French and Indian War carried devastations against the English frontier. He was colonel of troops and governor of Montreal at the time of the English conquest. The expedition here referred to made headquarters at Fort St. Frédéric, whence raids were sent out against the outlying settlements of New England and New York. See *Maine Hist. Soc. Colls.*, iii, pp. 170, 171, for a typical attack.—Ed.

<sup>2</sup> The forts erected by La Vérendrye and his successors were collectively entitled, "Post of the Western Sea" (de la Mer de l'Ouest).—Ed.