

people, meanwhile, asking pardon, they endeavor to exculpate themselves, and proposed settling near Detroit. M^r de Longueuil has given them no positive answer, and has referred them to the General. Nicolas' tribe still continues, nevertheless, to reside at Sandoské¹ where, says M^r de Longueuil, they doubtless expect not only to maintain themselves but even to harass Detroit by small war parties. They have attached to them several families of vagabond Iroquois, Loups, &c. 'Tis even asserted that there are some Saut Indians among them. Father Potier,² the Jesuit Missionary, has abandoned the village on Bois Blanc island, and retired to Detroit, where he is to remain. M^r de Longueuil adds, that if the Nations do not declare in our favor, even though they remain somewhat inactive, it will be out of his power to get the harvest saved; that already the cattle of several of the farmers have been killed and carried off by the Sauteurs, some houses in the country pillaged by unknown Indians; that the chiefs, 'tis true, disapprove highly of the misconduct of these wretches and endeavor to restrain them, but that affords no assurance of their good intentions.

Mess^{rs} de Beaucourt and Michel, in sending us the letters from Detroit, inform us of the arrival of M^r de Belestre,³ who

¹ Sandoské is a lake to the south of Lake Erie, 40 or 50 leagues from Detroit.—E. B. O'CALLAGHAN.

² Pierre Potier was born in Flanders in 1708. Coming to Canada in 1743, he spent a year in studying the Huron language, and was sent to Detroit as assistant to Father de la Richardie, in the Huron mission. Potier remained at Detroit until his death in 1781.—Ed.

³ Marie François Picoté, Sieur de Bellestre, was born in 1719, and when about ten years of age accompanied his father to Detroit, where the latter soon died. At the proper age, the younger Bellestre entered the army, being made ensign in 1742 and lieutenant in 1758. He held a number of commands—in Acadia (1745-46), at Fort St. Josephs, and later (1758-60) at Detroit, of which he was the last French commandant, surrendering to the English in 1760. After this capitulation he retired to Canada, became a British partisan, and assisted in repelling the American invasion (1775-76). He was a member of the first legislative council of the province of Quebec.—Ed.