

to concentrate his forces at the village of Caskaquias, and to abandon the other settlements to the mercy of the Indians. He has not received any aid from New Orleans within 15 months, nor does he know whether the English are masters of the Colony, or if his Majesty have abandoned Louisiana. He has demanded some succor of M^r de Longueuil at Detroit, as he expected none from New Orleans until the end of the fall, and it is even uncertain whether any will come, as he learned that the Chaouenons, settled on the Ouabache, in union with the Chorakis, Chicachas and Abenaquis, were to come to the Mississippi to watch the convoy, and to stop it if possible. This officer is impatiently expecting the aid he has demanded of Chevalier de Longueuil, in order to ward off the storm that threatens the Illinois country,¹ the loss of which would be a serious drawback, inasmuch as the English being once masters of that country, would not find any difficulty in gaining the nations wholly to their interest, and by that means could easily seize the entire colony of Louisiana. M^r de Bertet has sent three of the principal chiefs of the Illinois to New Orleans to see M. de Vaudreuil, in order thereby to gain time and arrest any evil designs that nation might entertain against us.

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Dec. 3rd. Ensign Leborgne² arrives from Detroit, whence he has been detached by M. de Longueuil on duty. He brings to us an Outaouas and a Pouteouatamis, whom the two Nations send as delegates to the General, to treat of existing affairs at Detroit. M^r de Longueuil writes us on the 2nd of Novem-

¹Note on original MS.: "Chevalier de Longueuil writes, on the 25th of August, that he is waiting for the convoy to send supplies to the Illinois."

²Paul Leborgne, in 1744 second ensign in which capacity he served at Fort Frontenac in the same year. In 1749, after being made first ensign, he accompanied Céloron on his journey down the Ohio. Promoted to a lieutenancy in 1753, he was in service on Lake Champlain in 1757-58; and the following year, after receiving his captaincy, was slightly wounded at the siege of Quebec.—Eb.