

French, sent, last year, strong detachments to those two posts; but before that destined for Michilimakinac had arrived, the Indians, who were complained of, came to sue for pardon from the Commandant of the post, and delivered to him the two principal chiefs of the revolted party. Those of Detroit had fled to a distant village of the post, whence they sent deputies to sue for pardon; so that there is reason to hope that peace will be soon established in the Upper country, these Indians being the only ones on this Continent who have made any hostile movements during the war.

But the chiefs of the Michilimakinac rebels having been brought to Montreal, and Count de Lagalissonnière having resolved to send to Quebec, they were put on board a canoe, the crew of which consisted of a sergeant and eight soldiers. These were murdered on going down the river, and there was no doubt but the blow was struck by Indians, who, when drunk, had formed the design of rescuing the two prisoners.

1748: IMPORTANCE OF ILLINOIS SETTLEMENTS

[Memoir of La Galissonnière sent to the French Minister. MS. in archives of Ministère des Colonies, Paris; pressmark, "Canada, Corresp. gén., vol. 91, c. 11, fol. 116."]

QUEBEC, September 1, 1748.

MONSEIGNEUR—In answer to one of your last despatches, dated April 25, which reached me only by the "Zephir," I deem it my duty to speak to you somewhat at length respecting our establishments of the illinois.

They have perhaps this much in common with everything relating to the Mississipi, that, after having been estimated far above their real value, they can at present barely be looked upon as of any use. I consider that it is almost equally necessary to withdraw from those two extreme points, and here is what I think of it.

I look upon the profits of the mines as very uncertain and moreover as being so remote and depending upon so many other