

1748: WESTERN CONSPIRACY DISINTEGRATES

[Letter of La Galissonière to the French Minister, dated Oct. 23, 1748. Reprinted from *N. Y. Colon. Docs.*, x, pp. 181-185.]

QUEBEC, October 23, 1748.

MY LORD—I did not expect to enter into any details on occasion of the different movements of the Indians, and the negotiations which I, in the town of Montreal, and the commandants at the different posts had with them. They are all to be found in the Journal prepared by me, conjointly with the Intendant.¹ However, as this matter is much confused, and as the various reports which will, possibly, be made to you, will render it more obscure, I cannot dispense writing to you at length relative to subjects of the greatest importance to the Colony.

It was shortly after my arrival that I learned the revolt of the Miamis, the consequences of which, though unfortunate, have not been near so much so as they seemed to be. That nation was divided into two parties, whereof one that appears attached to the French is, I believe, the most considerable, and has remained at the village. It did, however, accept its share of the plunder, but gave it back afterwards; no one was killed in that affair.

M^r de Longueuil, the commandant at Detroit, having received intelligence of this disorder, and at the same time of the good disposition of a part of that nation, sent Sieur Dubuisson thither, in the beginning of the winter, with a sufficient escort to keep possession of the fort, which had been partially burnt, but not to undertake anything.

This officer, and his little garrison, had to undergo considerable suffering through the winter, in consequence of the unfriendly disposition of the Indians, who extorted (*racontés*) on them for provisions. Sieur Dubuisson had carried scarcely anything with him from Detroit, where great scarcity also prevailed. However, he subsisted until the spring at a consider-

¹ For this journal, so far as it covers events in 1747, see *ante*; for those of 1748, summarized in the journal, see *N. Y. Colon. Docs.*, x, pp. 137-179.—Ed.