

from Nations who were faithful, or were reputed to be so. These informed me of everything I have related to you, and demanded of me some assistance of men, ammunition and provisions, which induced me to dispatch the convoy thither as quick as possible. It consisted of more than a hundred Frenchmen and ten or twelve of the most reliable Nepissing Indians of the Lake, and of a great number of voyageurs, who were going up to trade, and was commanded by Captain de Celoron, who had M^r de la Naudiere as his lieutenant. This convoy, when passing Fort Frontenac and Niagara, made a strong impression on the Iroquois and other nations it met, and the news of its approach, I think, determined, more than anything else, the principal chiefs of Detroit to come to Montreal, where they arrived about the same time as the Missilimakinak Nations, of whom I now proceed to write.

Missilimakinac is in some sort the centre and entrepôt of all the Northern, as Detroit is of all the Southern, posts. Notwithstanding all those posts are farther from the English than the Southern, their invitations and intrigues had been, in some degree, the cause of more disorder there; scarcely any of the Nations had been exempt from the general seduction. Some Frenchmen were killed at Saguinan, an Ottawa village, between Detroit and Missilimakinac; others at Chibaouinani, otherwise La Cloche, by some Mississagués, others at Grosse Isle, near Missilimakinac, and even at Missilimakinac, also, where no respect was paid to the commandant; the voyageurs were robbed and maltreated at Sault St. Mary, and elsewhere, on Lake Superior. In fine, there appeared to be no security anywhere. All these disorders occurred whilst the elder M^r de la Corne, commandant at Missilimakinac, was at Montreal, or rather had brought down to that place, by the Marquis de Beauharnois' orders, a portion of those same tribes who have executed or plotted all those treacheries. The news arrived when M^r de la Corne was on an expedition towards the frontiers of New England. The Marquis de Beauharnois then took the resolution to send M^r de St. Pierre as commandant to Missilimakinac; a very good officer, and much esteemed among all the Nations of