

of 300 to take the captives to Their country. I shall have the honor of informing You of the Fate of our Frenchmen as soon as I get news. It may also be presumed that the Renards will take advantage of This opportunity to make peace with Us.

I have the honor to be with very profound respect, Monseigneur, Your very humble and very obedient Servant

BEAUHARNOIS

QUEBEC, March 24th, 1729.

I ought to inform you, Monseigneur, that eleven Frenchmen and Father Guignas Jesuit, who had left fort Pepin to descend the Mississippi River as Far as the Illinois country in order to reach Canada by that route, were stopped by the Mascoutins and Quicapous and taken to the riviere au bœufs with the purpose of surrendering them to the Renards; and that Sieur Montbrun and his brother with another Frenchman escaped from their hands the evening before they were to be delivered to those savages. The said Sieur de Montbrun left his brother ill among the Tamaroids,¹ and has come to bring this news to Monsieur the General; having warned such of our posts as were on his route to be on their guard against the said Mascoutins and Quicapous.

1729: KICKAPOO AND MASCOUTIN DECLARE WAR UPON
THE FOXES

[Letters of Beauharnois to the French Minister, dated May 16 and May 19, 1729. MS. of the first, in archives of Ministère des Colonies, Paris; press-mark, "Canada, Corresp. gén., vol. 50, c. 11, fol. 130; vol. 51, c. 11, fol. 132; vol. 50, c. 11, fol. 131." The parts of this letter were separated, and have been reunited by our transcriber. MS. of the second, in the Quebec provincial archives.]

MONSEIGNEUR—The son of the Sieur Deschaillons, commandant at the fort of Detroit, arrived in this town yesterday

¹The Tamarois were an Illinois tribe located near the village of Cahokia.—Ed.