

able dispositions by presents, And we cannot avoid giving some to the Maskoutins and Quicapoux to confirm them in the resolution that they have taken to wage war against the Renards. I have gathered also from all that has been written to me by the commandants of the posts in the upper country, that I shall be obliged to furnish the assistance of some Frenchmen to the nations who are about to go to war against the Renards; but this I shall always do with much caution on account of the expense that will have to be incurred. The rupture of the Maskoutins and Quicapoux with the Renards will constitute a strong barrier between the Illinois country and that of the Renards.

Although the army sent against the latter has not produced all the Result expected from it, it has nevertheless made a great impression on the Minds of the tribes who seemed to Wish to despise us, and we have all the more reason to believe that the step now taken by the Maskoutins and Quicapoux against the Renards is due solely to the Example of what has been done among their Neighbors, and to the fear that we might wage war against them.

The Frenchman who is said to have been killed by the Puants, is a young man thirty two years old, who had remained with the folles avoines, the eldest son of Monsieur de la Noue, a Captain of the troops.

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

BEAUHARNOIS

QUEBEC, May 16th, 1729.

P. S. I also append a copy of the letter written to me by Reverend father Guignoss previous to his departure from the Sioux country. It will show you, Monseigneur, what danger there would be in farming out the posts of the upper country to merchants for the purpose of exploiting the same as has been proposed to you, because the sole object of those persons is their own particular interest (as you will see by reading that Letter) and the interests of the King would always suffer considerably.