

1729: EXPENSES OF EXPEDITION OF 1728

[Extract of a letter from Beauharnois and Hocquart to the French Minister, dated Oct. 25, 1729. This is evidently in reply to accusations against Lignery for extravagance in his expedition of the previous year. MS. in archives of Ministère des Colonies, Paris; press-mark, "Canada, Corresp. gén., vol. 51, c. 11, fol. 41."]

MONSEIGNEUR—

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We have communicated to Sieur de Lignery what you were pleased to write to us respecting the Goods that he has left at Missilimakinac. For his justification he says that he had not charge of the Goods and munitions delivered from the King's magazines on Monsieur Dupuy's order; That there was a Commissary Appointed to Follow the army who had charge of those things; That he Knew that munitions had been delivered from the magazines to effect Purchases of Food and that they were nearly all Employed either in buying provisions or were distributed among various savage tribes in order to Induce them to follow the Army; That they did not Suffice by a good deal to purchase the necessary Provisions for three hundred savages brought by the Sieur de Noyan¹ to Missilimakinac to join the army, who arrived twenty days before the Sieur de Lignery; That none or at least a very small quantity of the goods destined for the purchase of Indian corn and grease went to Missilimakinac as you may See, Monseigneur, by

¹ Pierre Jacques Payan de Noyan (Noyau), Sieur de Chavois (Chano), was a nephew of Longueuil and Iberville. Born in 1695, he served with distinction in both Canada and Louisiana. An official report of 1736 (*Can. Arch.*, 1899, p. 28) says of him: "35 to 40 years. A good officer, quick-witted and intelligent. Steady. Adopted by the Iroquois. Ensign, 1712; lieutenant, 1722; captain, 1729." He served with Bienville in Louisiana, being second in command of the ill-fated expedition against the Chickasaws in 1736. During the English wars he commanded several posts, was governor of Trois Rivières, and very influential with the Iroquois. In 1758 he was with an inadequate force placed in command of Fort Frontenac, being obliged to surrender to the English. Later he was exchanged for Col. Peter Schuyler, whom Montcalm had captured at Oswego.—Ed.