

positions these Indians seem to entertain, inasmuch as the Miamis are their near relatives.

The Missilimakina Nations who had in like manner promised, have not budged either. M^r Duplessis Fabert writes on the first of January that he has been informed some of the enemy have been seen on the Grand river.

It is exceedingly probable that the Commandant at Fort Chartres will not have any greater authority over the Nations of his post.

The result of all that I have the honor of reporting to you, my Lord, is that not only have our rebels of the Beautiful river not experienced any ill treatment from the Nations that the late M^r de la Jonquière had excited against them, but even moreover, that the same Nations promised wonders to that General only with a premeditated view to deceive him, and that at heart they preserve the same feelings of attachment for those rebels to whom they are connected by blood.

The perfidy of these Nations, however unfortunate it may be, is not the most untoward event that could happen to us, and it was not without reason that the late M^r de la Jonquière questioned whether the two scalps taken by the Nepissings would give any trouble to our rebels, or render them more mutinous. His alternative has been only too well realized to our greatest disadvantage.

On the other hand, M^r de Joncaire repeats that the Indians of the Beautiful river are all English, for whom alone they work; that they are all resolved to sustain each other, and that not a party of Indians goes to the Beautiful river but leaves some there to increase the rebel forces.

On the other hand M^r de St. Ange, Commandant of the post of Vincennes,⁵⁸ writes to M^r Desligneris to use all means to protect himself from the storm which is ready to burst on the

⁵⁸ For a sketch of this officer see *Id.*, xvi, p. 443. His will is printed in F. L. Billon, *Annals of St. Louis* (St. Louis, 1886), pp. 125-127. See further data in Illinois Historical Society *Transactions*, 1905, pp. 18-20.—Ed.