

## 1754: THE UPPER POSTS

[Extract from a letter from Du Quesne to the French minister, dated Oct. 13, 1754. Reprinted from *N. Y. Colon. Docs.*, x, pp. 262, 283.]

MY LORD—I have the honor to report to you what occurred at the posts during the year.

The Indians of the North are very quiet because Sieur Marin, who commands at The Bay and leads the Indians at will, has procured repose for them by the peace he has caused to be concluded with the Christinaux.

The Sauteux of Camanestigwia and Michipicoton have had a difficulty among themselves. Seventeen of them have been killed, but this animosity, which is at present abated, has been prejudicial only to the hunting, and they are now quiet.

Chevalier de Repentigny, who commands at the Sault St. Mary, is busily engaged with the settlement of his post, which is essential for stopping all the Indians who come down from Lake Superior to Choueguen, but I do not hear it said that this post yields a great revenue.

The Poutwatamis, Kickapoux, Mascoutins and Scioux of the Prairies, have assembled together to go and destroy the Peorias, who, for a long time, regard with insolence the other Indians; they are, moreover, people of no faith, who steal with impunity, even in their neighbors' cabins.

This war, in which I am not at all interested, can be productive only of a good effect in putting down such banditti; I have, nevertheless, ordered the Commandants to adjust all matters after these rascals will have received a sharp lesson.

As I had fixed for the Peanguichias to be at the Miamis where Sieur Péan would pass,<sup>84</sup> and as those Indians have wait-

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<sup>84</sup>Michel Jean Hugues Péan was born in Canada in 1723, son of Sieur de Livaudière, for whom see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xvii, p. 205. The younger Péan, after having served in Acadia, was assistant to his father as town-major of Quebec (1745). In 1750 he was ordered to France, but returned to Canada before the coming of Du Quesne, with whom he was a favorite. He was sent out in 1753 as second in com-