

them. But even in such cases there are two things to be observed; one is, to first endeavor to win over those same nations by reconciling them with the faithful ones; and the other is to make sure, as far as possible, that the latter will not suffer too much from such wars.

There is still another principle that has long been adopted in Canada, and His Majesty observes that it is followed on all occasions: it is to take the savage nations from the places they have chosen as their retreat, and to bring them near the French posts. The spirit of trade has contributed more than anything else to inspire such manner of thinking and of acting. As a rule it is making a very bad use of His Majesty's money, of the authority or credit of the commandants, to employ them for migrations of that kind. The allied savages must be considered as being in their proper place everywhere, provided it be neither on English territory nor in the vicinity of any nation openly hostile to the French, and without paying too much heed to the traders' profits, nor to the prejudices of many people in that respect. The *Sieur de Vaudreuil* must leave certain nations at liberty to wander over the lands of the colony, provided they receive no strangers; for the latter point is the most essential.

His Majesty has also had occasion to remark, in the various reports sent him on what occurs in connection with the savages, that for some years they have amused themselves by accepting collars and flags from the English, and afterward taking them to the French to get presents from the latter. All this is very costly for His Majesty and is, moreover, unbecoming. It is not right to be duped by such deceitful conduct. The *Sieur de Vaudreuil* must put a stop to it and this will be all the more difficult to do that in only too many instances, such conduct is favored by the French themselves.

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Given at VERSAILLES, March 22nd, 1755.