

Country, that cost in an ordinary year 150,000 francs; they supply their needs in return for peltries, and this is called carrying on trade, a custom that enriches the individuals to whom the posts are granted; in some the king reserves for himself the commerce, and as it is carried on at a disadvantage for the sole reason that it is for the king, he loses thereby each year, 100,000 crowns. These expenses are, nevertheless, much below those incurred in time of war to equip, arm, feed, reward, and give collars to so many of our domiciled savages, as well as to those of the Upper Country, when we wish them to come down to our assistance.

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1757: SUBMISSION OF THE IOWA

[Letter from Vaudreuil to the French minister, dated July 20, 1757. MS. in Archives Coloniales, Paris; pressmark, "Canada, Corresp. gén., C 11, vol. 102, fol. 84."]

MONTREAL, July 20, 1757.

MONSEIGNEUR—Previous to my arrival in this colony, the Ayoouois killed two Frenchmen in the Missouri country. I at once hastened to give my orders to the commandants of the posts whither that nation might come, that the first officer to whose post they came was to compel them themselves to bring me the murderers.

The commandant of La Baye<sup>48</sup> had occasion to see those Ayoouois. He spoke to them in my name with such firmness that 10 savages of the same nation came to Montreal expressly to deliver the murderers to me. They presented them to me in the name of their nation with great submission and resignation that I might have their heads broken if such was my intention. They nevertheless earnestly begged me to pardon them and assured me that they themselves would avenge the death

<sup>48</sup> Sieur Hubert Couterot, for whom see *ante*, p. 184, note 28.—ED.