1759] French Regime in Wisconsin

[Extracts from letters from Montcalm to Bourlamaque, dated March 12 and 15, 1759. Translated from Lévis MSS., v, pp. 290-292.]

Our news from Detroit of the 13 [of January] speaks of the scarcity of provisions, and the letters especially say that the Hurons wish to remain tranquil on their mats. The letters from Michilimakinac speak of the scarcity of provision, and the difficulty of making the savages come down.

According to Monsieur the marquis de Vaudreuil there is good news from Michilimakinac, la baie, Saint-Joseph, the Oyatonons—great affection of the savages. According to the same, good news from Detroit—great affection of the savages. However the Hurons, invited by a collar to an assembly, went there, although Bellestre told them that they rendered themselves suspected by these means.

[Extract from the journal of Montcalm, dated May 11, 1759, in Lévis MSS., vii, p. 518.]

Monsieur de Bellestre writes from Detroit that we must not expect great succor from thence; there does not yet appear to be any movement [of the savages].

There is no news of the convoy from the Illinois. According to the deposition of a prisoner at the Beautiful River,

them. For lack of provisions, Aubry had retired to the Illinois before the arrival of Forbes's troops. In 1759 Aubry led a large convoy and detachment to Fort Machault, that joined Des Lignery at that place early in July. The 24th of the same month they were defeated near Niagara by a body of English, and Aubry was carried prisoner to New York. Having been exchanged, he was in Paris early in 1761, and after receiving the cross of St. Louis returned to Louisiana. There he was commandant of troops, until upon the death of d'Abbadie (Feb. 4, 1765), he became governor. Involved in the revolution of 1768 against the Spaniards, Aubry was accused of betraying his compatriots to the Spanish authorities. He left the colony late in 1769 and was lost in a shipwreck before reaching France.—Ed.

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