

tinios, as they have not raised any band of warriors against that nation and have promised the *Sieur Marin* to do his will.

The said *Sieur Marin* was unable to go to the upper Mississippi, and to its source because the nations of la Baye and the Sioux who came to see me last year, urgently begged him to wait for them at la Baye and those nations only returned very late.

Moreover, he found the nations of La Baye in a state of very great uneasiness; none of the nations wished to withdraw to its own village. A rumor (probably due to the English) had spread that I had detained the last Sioux who visited me in Montreal in order to put them to death; and this had caused such alarm that, to reassure those nations, the *Sieur Marin* was compelled to remain with them; otherwise there was reason to fear that they might have been guilty of violence against the French.

After the Sioux arrived the *Sieur Marin* told all the nations how wrong they had been in crediting such a rumor. He reminded them of His Majesty's kindness to them; and left at once to undertake the discoveries I had ordered, but he was stopped by the ice and was compelled to winter at Lake Papin.

He writes me that he will make every possible effort this year to effect such discoveries. The Sioux have promised to accompany him and have told him that it was advisable to wait until *Monsieur de St. Pierre* had quieted the nations on the Mississippi.

I particularly charged the *Sieur Marin* to spare no effort to discover a copper mine said to be on the *rivière du Bon Secours*,¹⁸ and, if he succeeds in finding it, to send specimens to *Monsieur de Vaudreuil* to be forwarded to you.¹⁹

¹⁸ The river *Bon Secours* has been correctly identified with the present Chippewa River of Wisconsin. But it should also be noted that it is the same stream as that called by the early explorers "River des Bœufs," now known as Beef River (Wis.). The mouth of the Chippewa has shifted since the seventeenth century—see Elliott Coues, *Ex-*

¹⁹ *Vaudreuil* was then governor of the colony of Louisiana.—Ed.