

by fire caused by smokers. The damage has been repaired, and each voyageur has supplied a stake for the purpose.

As the fort is in need of many repairs, I have permitted the Sieur Duplessis to have it enlarged on the Lake side, to have a new guard-house built, and some other repairs made which will cost the King nothing, as I have given the said Sieur Duplessis orders to employ therefor the proceeds of the sale of some building lots, and if such moneys be insufficient, he will make the voyageurs contribute in equal shares.

The best news I can have the honor to give you, Monseigneur, is that of the return of the Outaouois Sinagos who, for some years past, had taken refuge at Saguinaw where they killed some Frenchmen. Since I have been in the Colony, I have never ceased to order Monsieur Duplessis to take every means to recall them. He succeeded in doing so last spring. He received them very kindly and you will see by their annexed words, dated the 13th of July, how earnestly they sued for pardon, which I granted them.

They told me that another band of the said Outaouois had withdrawn to Detroit where it had been very well received by Monsieur de Celoron to whom I had given the same orders as to Monsieur Duplessis; but Monsieur de Celoron says nothing to me about it.

There are still a number of Saulteux at Saguinaw. The Outaouois Sinagos have promised me to make every possible effort to get them to return to their former village at Missilimakinack. Monsieur Duplessis has orders to neglect nothing on his part.

I have given the command of the post at the river St. Joseph to the Sieur de la Corne La Colombière²³ in the place of

²³ Antoine la Corne, Sieur de la Colombière, was born in 1708, one of the brothers in a famous family that faithfully served New France. Becoming a junior officer in 1734, he was promoted in 1739, and in 1748 secured his lieutenancy. The service here noted was apparently his first in a Western fort. In 1753 he was promoted to a captaincy, and was employed in scouting (1756) with a considerable force on Lake