

pay to the selection of the commandants of the Posts, and of those to whom I shall intrust the superintendence of Indian negotiations or of the different parties I shall send out. I have remarked, since my residence in this Colony, that all do not possess suitable qualities in the same degree, and this will cause me to apply, in the present conjuncture, a most particular attention to the choice I shall make of the officers for the one, and the other, service. I have never denied that the influence of the Missionaries over the minds of the Indians among whom they reside, could greatly contribute to the advantages to be expected from them; and if respect and marks of confidence are capable of exciting their zeal for his Majesty's service in this portion of their obligations in this Colony, I think, My Lord, I have left them nothing to desire up to the present time in that regard.

I am, with the most profound respect, My Lord, your most humble and most obedient servant,

8th October, 1744.

Signed: BEAUHARNOIS.

M. de Beauharnois to Count de Maurepas.

My Lord,

I have the honor to transmit to you annexed, some intelligence that I have just received from M^r de Beaujours to whom the Indians communicated it. If true, its contents are no more than what I am well satisfied of, as well on account of the precautions the English are taking to remain on the defensive on this side, as of the opinion entertained by the Iroquois of the Five Nations in regard to the post of Choueghen. It tends, besides, to confirm but too strongly the reasons I had the honor to submit to you in my despatch of the 8th of this month as to the opposition to be expected from them in the projected attack on that post. I feel more strongly the necessity that existed for my sending back Sieur de Joncaire to the Senecas, both for the purpose of tranquilizing the minds of the Five Nations as well as to restrain them, and to be informed by him of what was doing in these Cantons. And as to the threats the English make use of against him, I advised him beforehand to secure himself against their effects by passing along the North shore of Lake Ontario.

I am with most profound respect,

My Lord,

Your most humble and

Most obedient Servant,

Quebec, 29th October, 1744.

BEAUHARNOIS.

Intelligence communicated to M. de Beaujours by Tecanancoassin, Chief of the Indians of the Sault S' Louis, on his return to Montreal from Orange. 19th of October, 1744.

He reports that the town of Orange is inclosed with stockades, eight feet high. That the town and country people are drilled with the musket on the shoulder and the hatchet in hand.