

1627. with a gold crown of eight marks' weight at each change of king, and support for the officers of supreme justice, to be named and presented by the said associates when it should be deemed proper to establish them ; power to cast cannon, build fortified places, forge all kinds of arms offensive and defensive, and do generally every thing necessary for the safety of the country and the preservation of trade. 2d. His majesty conceded to them the right to grant lands in such quantity as they deemed expedient ; to give them such titles, honors, rights, and power as they chose, according to the qualities, condition, and merit of the person, with such charges, reservations, and conditions as should be deemed just ; but that in case of the erection of duchies, marquisates, countships, and baronages, letters of confirmation should be taken out from the king, on the presentation of Cardinal de Richelieu, grand master, chief, and superintendent of the trade and commerce of France. 3d. That the associates might enjoy, fully and peaceably, what was granted them, his majesty revoked all concessions made of said lands, ports, or portions thereof ; he granted to the associates in perpetuity the trade in leather, skins, and furs ; and for fifteen years only—commencing January 1, 1628, to the last of December, 1643—all other trade by land or sea, made in any manner whatever, in the extent of said country and as far as it might extend, excepting only the cod and whale fishery, which his majesty wished to be free to all his subjects ; revoking all conflicting concessions, and especially the articles granted to William de Caen, interdicting for the said time all trade granted either to the said de Caen and his associates or others, under penalty of confiscation of the vessels and goods to the profit of the Company, unless Cardinal de Richelieu should give leave, passport, or permission to any one for all the places mentioned. 4th. The king intended, nevertheless, that the French settled in the same parts, who were neither supported nor maintained at the expense of the Company, should be at full liberty to trade