

1675. at first dissembled to his majesty some of the extravagances of this general, who had powerful protectors at court and influential alliances. This may be inferred from two letters written in that prince's name, and dated April 29, 1679. In one addressed to Mr. du Chesneau, the king explained to that intendant, that he would have avoided all the violence of which he complained, had he contented himself with exposing his reasons to Mr. de Frontenac, and had he obeyed him, giving him notice that he would lay the whole matter before the court.

Letters of
the king to
the
intendant
and
governor-
general.

In the other, which was for the Count de Frontenac, his majesty, after reproaching him that by his pretensions he disturbed the tranquillity of New France, added: "You wish in the registers of the Sovereign Council to be styled chief and president of that council, which is entirely contrary to my ordinance concerning that body. I am the more surprised at this pretension, as I am well assured that you are the only one in my kingdom, who, being honored with the title of governor and lieutenant-general in a country, desired to be styled chief and president of a council like that in Canada. I accordingly desire you to abandon that pretension, and rest contented with the title of governor and lieutenant-general for me. No more do I wish that the title of president of the council be given to the intendant; but that he shall have all the functions; that is to say, that you have no authority to keep the registers of the council in your hands, as you have assumed to do, and required; still less to take up the votes, and pronounce the decisions; all these functions belong to the office of president, which I have attached to that of intendant."

In the same letter the king renews his orders on the subject of the vagabonds, usually called *Coureurs de Bois*, and declares to the general that he will take no excuse on the point, under the conviction that it depended on the governor solely to arrest the course of such a disorder, which was ruining and depopulating the country and an-