

[470] Letter from Father Charles Lalemant, to  
Father Étienne Charlet, Assistant  
of France at Rome.

Paris, February 28th, 1642.

**M**Y REVEREND FATHER,  
Pax Christi.

I have received what it has pleased Your Reverence to write me in favor of the affairs for which Father Le Jeune has just made a journey to this country.<sup>19</sup> Now, although I am extremely interested in all the affairs of New France, yet it is true that what your Reverence has written me about these greatly increases my affection, according to which I have not failed to assist him. He has obtained ten thousand écus, with which to send men over there to fortify against the Iroquois, and prevent their incursions. Indeed, he would also have desired more effectual assistance, in order to drive away those who are sustaining the said iroquois in this war, and furnishing them with firearms. But this enterprise has been deemed very hazardous: 1st, because their strength is not known. 2nd, if it were known, a considerable sum would be needed to defray the expenses of the men and ships that would be necessary for this purpose. 3rd, after all that, we would not be certain of prevailing over them; and, if the attempt failed, what great outlays we would cause the King without gaining anything, which would result in our not being listened to when we might need