

only a burden; but it is right that we should Serve him after he has Served us So well for so many years. I found several letters here from the fathers among the Illinois, where father de ville²⁵ is not likely to arrive for some time, as I learn that the roads Are closed.

Monsieur Bergier claims: 1st, that we have the powers of vicar-general merely with regard to the Savages of our missions, and not to the french who Are also settled in them. This he says and publishes, solely with the view of taking the french from us, and of informing them that we have no authority over Them, and that they must have recourse to him in Spiritual matters. Your Reverence can easily Realize the inconveniences that would result if our powers as vicars-general did not extend to the french who Are settled in our missions, and If we had to refer them to Monsieur Bergier or to monsieur de la vante.²⁶

2nd. He claims that, although I am entitled the Superior of the Illinois missions and of those that we may have in these countries, and although monseigneur of Quebec gives the powers of vicar-general to the Superior of these missions, I have not those powers of vicar-general,—because monseigneur the Bishop took from me, at the time of the Tamarouha affair, those that he had given me more than 10 years previously. But it is only during the last 4 or 5 years that he gives these powers to the Superior of the Illinois missions; and I am not Aware that he has excluded me individually and by name, although he Knew that I was the Superior thereof. I assure you, my Reverend Father, that I do not aspire to *nominis umbram*, and that I Gladly concede the