

New Laurette, In the Seigniory of St. Gabriel,—in order to retain them in one village, to the great advantage of the Colony.¹³ And this, Monseigneur, leads the said Jesuit Fathers to have recourse to Your Grace, in order to obtain from His Majesty that they may continue to hold these former lands of the Savages,—no longer as their Tutors and as the Administrators of their property, as hitherto; but in their own private name and as a real fief, as granted to them by the said Messeigneurs the Governor and the Intendant of this country. By this request the Petitioners seek solely to avoid the contestations that might arise through the escheat of the said Savages, and in order that the slight fruits that may be derived therefrom may fall into the hands of those who employ them—all, and a hundred times more—for the benefit of the Savages to whom they were first given. Such a favor will oblige the said Petitioners to continue their prayers for Your Grace, and to remain for life, with a most profound respect.

Your very humble and very Obedient
Servants in Our Lord,

MARTIN BOUVART, Superior,

FRANCOIS VAILLANT, Procurator, s.j.

We Certify that the Contents of the above petition are True, and that Accordingly We have deemed it just to grant to the jesuit fathers, As We have done, the possession in their own name of the lands, the ratification whereof they now ask of His Majesty,—especially in View of the Exceedingly great expense which they have incurred in the past, and still incur daily, in Supporting the Missions of