

hear confessions in our chapel, and preach during advent and Lent in the principal church, as often as I am invited to do so by the Reverend Capuchin Fathers, who minister to the neighboring parishes of the french people.

We have two other Missions among the Savages, about 150 leagues from here, and distant from each other, in which none are as yet Christians. What greatly hinders their conversion — besides their character, which is averse to Christian severity — is their propensity to drunkenness. Another obstacle is the evil conversation of the english, who from the province of Carolina, although quite distant from them, often travel to their country, and remain there a Long time for the purpose of carrying on trade. . . .

The Bishop of Quebec has appointed me his Vicar-general for our Missionaries and their missions. . . .

MATHURIN LE PETIT, S.J.

[Endorsed: "Letter from Father Le Petit to the very Reverend Father General. New Orleans, june 25, 1738."]