

manding the post, in the absence of M. De Tonty, to assemble the supplicants at the house of the Reverend Father Bonaventura, the missionary of the post, and offered them such goods as they had need of at a price they said the most reasonable they could afford.

This was done to prevent our complaints, the *Sieur* Gatineau, who was about to go down to Montreal, foreseeing that we should make complaint. But it was no longer in season for the supplicants to accept them, inasmuch as the greater part of the traffic with the savages was finished, there being only three days left.

Wherefore the supplicants refused to receive the goods, which would only have been a charge to them.

Seeing then no means of relief, in the hope they may obtain of you, *Monsieur*, the favor of enjoying their ancient privilege, which will be much more agreeable than to hold them of these gentlemen, the savages themselves are very much dissatisfied with so restricted a trade. Heretofore they were accommodated with it in twenty or thirty places, but now there are only two that can accommodate them with what they want.

There being none of your petitioners who are now able to furnish them with powder in return for beaver, it has given them the boldness to say they will remove their fires, and so kindle them elsewhere, where they will be treated with more freedom and kindness.

Your supplicants would simply remark, that they hope you will have the goodness to spare the Indians this provision—is this considered *Monsieur*, may it please you to grant the supplicants such favors as you shall judge proper, under the present expose, which they take the liberty to make, touching their little trade.

Without this, it will be impossible for them to live with their families in a place where they cannot expect assistance from any other quarter.