

The inhabitants cannot object to the strong reasoning we give you.

Monseigneur to explain to you why: if they were left with the trade, they could not sustain it. It is not possible that people who should be occupied most of the year in tillage could go to Montreal and purchase goods. To do this they must abandon their lands for trade, and then it would be necessary to abandon the post, and also the trade and lands for want of sustenance. To keep goods for traffic, it is necessary also to have provisions for subsistence of Indians who come to trade while they remain, as well as for the French. The corn which the Indians cultivate is not sufficient for their own nourishment, consequently there is an absolute necessity for cultivation, and for this purpose, and to compel the inhabitants, it is equally necessary to prohibit them from all other trade.

For these reasons, Monseigneur, may it please you, without regard to the request of the inhabitants of Detroit, to ordain that the respondents, successors to the rights of M. De Tonty, may be maintained in their exclusive privileges. That the inhabitants be permitted to trade in provisions which they raise only, and to go to Montreal for their utensils, provisions and goods necessary for private use, being prohibited from purchasing for traffic.

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No. 10

REMONSTRANCE OF SIEUR DE TONTY TO MONSIEUR DUPUY, INTENDANT OF JUSTICE, POLICE AND FINANCE IN ALL NEW FRANCE, AGAINST THE PETITION OF THE INHABITANTS OF DETROIT AND OTHERS, (GENS SANS AVEU,) BEARING DATE OCTOBER 21, 1726

The Sieur De Tonty very humbly exhibits to you, Monsieur, how the citizens domiciled at Detroit, and other people without residence, and who are not in the trade, complain