

ing that establishment of Detroit is so very conflicting, that he is very glad, once for all, to know what he is to rely on. His Majesty will not repeat to them here the reasons which have prompted him to order this report to be made. Sieur de la Motte Cadillac continues to be persuaded that these reasons exist, and that this establishment will have all the effect expected from it. Others pretend that the land there is good for nothing; that it will never produce anything to feed its inhabitants; that the only thing there is the very poor fishing, and that the hunting is between thirty and forty leagues off; and, finally, that it is to be feared that the Iroquois will attack that post without its being in our power to assist it, and that war will recommence in consequence. The Company of the Colony complains likewise that it involves them in an exorbitant expense which it is out of their power to sustain, if it be continually required to convey to that post the supplies necessary for the support of the people there. His Majesty's pleasure is that the Mess^{rs} de Callières and de Beauharnais assemble the said Sieur de la Motte Cadillac and the most respectable of the inhabitants, whether officers or settlers, for the purpose of discussing with great attention and care the reasons for and against that establishment, and that they afterwards draw up an exact Report thereon, which they will cause to be signed by the said Sieur de la Motte Cadillac, and the most respectable of those who will have attended the Meeting, and that they will sign it themselves, so that his Majesty may issue orders on its contents, either to consent to the preservation and augmentation of that post, or to abandon it altogether, or to allow it to remain as a mere trading post. His Majesty is persuaded that they will act herein without prejudice, and with a view solely to the public good and service. The Colony must, without any difficulty, support the Chaplain of that fort, as well as of Fort Frontenac and other places where it carries on its trade.—*N. Y. Colon. Docs.*, ix, p. 742.