

General of Canada, and *Sieur Raudot* to have him supplied with a canoe and men necessary for its navigation, with whatever provisions he shall require for subsistence during the voyage, without, however, any merchandise for trade.

The principal reason which has induced his Majesty to make him undertake this voyage is that *Sieur de la Motte Cadillac*, who has charge of the establishment of *Detroit de Pontchartrain*, writes in all his letters that he does not receive from said *Sieurs de Vaudreuil* and *Raudot* the aid which they have been ordered to furnish him, and that he found that post on his arrival in very bad condition. He pretends that the fort was without powder, *Sieur de Tonty*, who commanded there, having disposed of all that was there before leaving it; that the lands of the Colonial Company ["of the Colony"], who held that post before him, lay fallow or in the occupancy of the Indians, the houses being all uncovered; no grain, the greatest portion of the peltries rotten and spoiled, and the Company's store pillaged; and that he is able to prove these facts by several witnesses. His Majesty is desirous that he himself verify all that is alleged, and that he endeavor to discover the truth by unquestionable evidence.

He will, also, take information regarding what occurred in the action of the *Outaouaks*, and what occasioned them to attack *Fort Detroit* and kill three Frenchmen, the said *Sieur De la Motte* wishing to insinuate that they were stimulated to this act for the purpose of bringing about the failure of that establishment; finally, to report all he shall learn, and especially the conduct of *Sieur de Bourgmont*, the Commander of the fort on that occasion.

It appears by the letters of all the officers in garrison at *Detroit*, that there is not a finer nor a better country, and that all the favorable reports of it are true. *Sieur de la Motte* adds that there is no doubt but it is constantly the retreat of all the Nations in those parts; that it is very conveniently situated; that the Nations who inhabit the banks of the Lakes can reach it without passing any rapid or waterfall; and that the Indians in the interior come thither over very level roads. He will take equal care to inform himself if that fort combine all these advantages.