

would not enter into partnership with anybody by means of the permits he sells for that post.¹ He has assumed all the expense, both of the almoner, of the interpreter, of the presents to be given the savages, and of the garrison. This has pleased all the Voyageurs, of whom a greater number than usual have gone up this year; thus goods will be cheaper. This is one of the best means of attracting the savages there, and making the place flourish.

Monsieur de Beauharnois will make no change without receiving fresh orders, all the more so that, inasmuch as the Sieur de Boishébert carries on no Trade, this seems in accordance with Monseigneur's intentions.

Another way to make detroit flourish would be to maintain a garrison of 50 or 60 men there.² The Commandant would then be in a position to make himself respected by the French and by the savages. This would make it an important establishment at the head of the country which would keep the nations in awe and frustrate the plans of the English. The same might be done for Missilimakinac which, nevertheless, would not possess the same advantages as Detroit, and which would be on a firm footing only when the latter is thus established.

¹Marginal note on MS.: "Good that he has been placed there." Louis Henri (or Charles) Dechamps, Sieur de Boishébert, was born in 1679. In 1721, he married Louise Genevieve de Ramezay, daughter of the Canadian governor. His term of service at Detroit, beginning in 1730, redounded to his credit, and he was later placed in charge of Indian affairs for the entire colony. In 1754, he was in command in Acadia, and served there throughout the French and Indian War (1754-63). A contemporary account thus characterizes him (1761): "Very rich. Reported to have abused his commandership in Acadia."—Ed.

²Marginal note on MS.: "Cannot be done."