

take the Sioux establishment. Under these circumstances, I was obliged to send sieur Duplessis¹ back to la Baye, where he had been stationed by Monsieur de Longueuil, before he had received your orders, but I count on being able to relieve him next spring, he himself having requested of me permission to return to his garrison.

1727: COMPLAINTS OF LOUISIANA

[Extract of a letter from Beauharnois to the French Minister, dated Sept. 25, 1727. MS. in archives of Ministère des Colonies, Paris; press-mark, "Canada, Corresp. gén., vol. 49, c. 11, fol. 132."]

MONSEIGNEUR—I believe that it is my duty to have the honor to inform you that every year there come into this Colony people from Missisipy, who descend to Montreal and Quebec in order to go to France, and likewise the French of Canada pass to the Missisipy, of whom there is no more information, both classes Without passports. This gives rise to great abuses and rascalities on the part of those who pass from one colony to the other, without paying the merchants, who have lent them merchandize in good faith and who hear nothing more of them; It is to remedy these abuses that I have undertaken, Monseigneur, to beg you to give orders to the commandant of Louisiana to arrest all the French of Canada who go to the Missisipy Without being furnished with a Passport, and to give me notice of it; I only Hope that you will find it satisfactory that I shall do the same for the French of the Missisipy, who come to this Colony without a Passport;

I have the honor to be with a very profound respect, Monseigneur, Your very humble and very obedient servant

BEAUHARNOIS.

QUEBEC, September 25th, 1727.

¹François Lefebvre, Sieur Duplessis-Fabert, was in command at La Baye in 1726. In a list of Canadian officers drawn up in 1736, he is thus described: "Age, 45 to 50. Precise. Clever. Few friends. Cadet, 1698; Ensign, 1700; Lieutenant, 1714; Captain, 1727."—ED.