17321

He has always recommended that officer, as he has Done in the case of his predecessors, to devote every attention to the settlement of Detroit and to the general welfare of the post. But though they have not been deficient in care On these two Points, it is impossible for this Settlement to become at all considerable so long as we do not send a sufficient number of troops there to whom lands would be conceded, whose value they might improve. And they would Afterward Become good settlers. About one hundred salt-Smugglers might also be sent there to whom advances would be made at first.

By these means the post would soon become a considerable one, and by its Strength it would restrain all the nations of the upper country.

He will, however, continue to recommend the officers commanding there to induce the settlers to till their Farms and to maintain order.³

He will distribute the 12 Medals that have been sent to him only to the Chiefs whose attachment and Services Are known to him. As there are many in this position and as the expedition of our Iroquois and Hurons against the Renards places him under the necessity of giving some to the principal Chiefs of the band, he Asks that others be sent to him.⁴

He asserts that he will be careful In the selection of the officers whom he will send to the posts. He adds that his attention in this respect excites jealousy but that he considers solely the capability of those whom he employs, the good of the Service and of the Colony.⁵

¹ Endorsement of the Minister: "To continue."

²Endorsement of the Minister: "This can be done only in the event of the number of the troops being increased. What can be done will be decided hereafter."

³ Endorsement of the Minister: "Good."

⁴Endorsement of the Minister: "Good. Write to Monsieur de Cotte to send 12 other similar to those he sent last year."

⁵ Endorsement of Minister: "He cannot be too careful."