

communicated to him all the contents of this Letter which I had drafted as a Joint Letter.

The concessions granted at that post are in Truth an Inducement to the habitants to till the Land better than they have hitherto done, But, Monseigneur, you cannot expect any marked progress unless a strong garrison is posted there. At the beginning it should consist of at least 60 men with a stationary commandant, a second in command, a third officer, a fourth officer to act as Adjutant, so that there may be some regularity in the service. This is the only way to make ourselves respected by the savages whose Minds are being turned every Day through their frequent communications with the English to whom they are attracted by the cheapness of the Goods for which they trade with them, and by the Brandy which is abundantly distributed to them. On the other hand, the beaver trade, which for a long time to come will still be the most valuable source of profit, will be destroyed unless we endeavor to control the savages by fear, to which should be added presents, the better to attach them to us.

Of those 60 soldiers in garrison some will settle on the Spot every year and become good habitants. And they, with such voyageurs as may likewise settle there, will in a few years constitute a good militia force capable of Overawing the Savages and opposing the Enterprises the English might some day Attempt against that Post—which is the central point of the upper country and will be capable of rendering assistance to all the posts, and of preventing interruption of communication between this Colony and that of Louisiana. We have jointly represented the necessity of increasing the number of troops to form fresh Garrisons and to strengthen the old ones. Such increase is of the greatest importance both as regards the safety of the country and the Interests of good order, the maintenance of authority and strict police in the Interior of the Colony.

It is true that there are but few regular troops in new England, but Insubordination and Independence reign there, an evil to be foreseen and Avoided in the [French] Colonies especially in this one where the population is beginning to be