

After Writing on two occasions to Monsieur de Beaucours¹ that he would send him the court's intentions with Regard to Me, Monsieur the Marquis De Beauharnois instructed Monsieur de longueuil² at Quebec to write Me that he had not Carefully examined Your Lordship's letter when he wrote to Monsieur de Beaucours; that he had received no orders to send Me to detroit But Merely a project proposed by Your grace to which he would send an answer, and therefore that the matter was not settled. Thus, Monseigneur, it has been sought to deprive Me of the honor I should have had in proving that I was fit for the position, and in justifying Your grace's choice of me as a disinterested Person. In truth I am unable to reply because I am equally ignorant Both of Your Lordship's plan and of the objections to it.

Nevertheless, it is easy to see that Your Lordship's Kindness toward me causes Much embarrassment and jealousy here. Monsieur de Noyelles finishes His three years in the Month of May next, and the appointment of a New commandant is under consideration. If Monsieur the general intended that I should be the person, he would do me the honor of notifying Me. Arrangements have to be made to obviate expense; I have therefore reason to think that he is at Least Surprised that Your Lordship should have cast your eyes On Me.

It Seems to Me that Your grace's project, whatever it may Be, should not occasion any trouble; and that the person whom you have honored with Your confidence should be sent there: Either giving him the post as it stands until Further orders, directing him to keep account of the emoluments in order to render an exact account thereof to the Court; Or, Messieurs de

¹ Josué Dubois de Berthelot, Sieur de Beaucourt, came to New France as an engineer in the troops. He assisted at the fortifications of Quebec in 1691, and again in 1712. He became a famous partisan leader, heading expeditions against the Iroquois in 1693, and in Queen Anne's War (1702-13). In 1730 he was governor of Three Rivers, and later of Montreal, which latter office he held until about 1748.—Ed.

² This was Charles Le Moyne, second baron de Longueuil; see *ante*, p. 10, note 2.—Ed.