

make in the System of Exploiting the Posts, I acted toward the Nations according to my lights, and as the interests of the Service Required. The complaints made to me by those savages that there is only one Store at Each Post, and their representations that if, on the contrary, there were several, they would get goods Cheaper, led me to promise as you will see, that I would place the Posts on the License system, on the same footing as Detroit. In order to keep my word to them, when I was informed that persons to whom I granted Posts, sub-let them to others at a higher price, I compelled the person who farmed the Post to go there himself, and I cancelled their Bargain, because this Transaction compelled the sub-lessee who paid a higher rent, to sell goods to the savages at a dearer rate, so that this Was a pretext to induce them to go to the English for what they needed. From this argument it may be Concluded, Monseigneur, that as Each Post may by Competition Be raised to a very high price, they will be unable to give their Goods otherwise than at higher rates than those of the ordinary trade, and there will be only one Store at each Post. When these two things happen, far from maintaining and increasing the trade of the Colony by means of that of the Upper Country, they will on the one Hand Cause the Ruin of many private individuals, and on the other lower the opinion they have of the Governor-General's person owing to the changes they will see in the promises given them, and which I could not avoid giving them.

Nevertheless, notwithstanding these reflections, the sole object whereof on my part is the welfare of the service—as I flatter myself you are convinced—I will take suitable Measures with Monsieur hocquart to Reconcile His Majesty's interests with those of the Nations, regarding which you have so often recommended me to act with Circumspection, and the importance whereof I fully recognize. I consider, Monseigneur, that I should have Deserved your reproaches had I not pointed out to you the drawbacks that may arise, through the System on which the Posts will be exploited, and the non-fulfillment of my promises to the Savages.