Wisconsin Historical Collections [vol. xvii

the others which will arrive late if they come at all. The same Applies to those from Detroit. In any case, the returns In furs cannot fail to Be very small And we do not Think that more than from 100 to 120 thousands of Beaver skins have been received in the Offices of the Company of the Indies. You may judge by all this, Monseigneur, of the extent to which this portion of the Trade of the Colony Suffers, And of the difficulty of restoring it. We presume you will leave us at liberty to take the measures we may deem most suitable to attain this end, And we will Work in concert, but we will for the present abstain from submitting premature suggestions to you.

Forts Niagara And Frontenac are fully supplied; the last Consignment Was sent at the end of last month In 24 Canoes. We Expect that they will bring down the remainder of the furs obtained by trade at the 2 posts And which should Be at fort Frontenac. A portion only Has arrived so Far.

The Company of the Indies Sent last year 450 pieces of Scarlet cloth which Were distributed amongst the voyageurs, in proportion to the Outfits, after deducting what Was taken for the service. This quantity was far from sufficient. You know that it is absolutely impossible to do without these Stuffs. Is imperatively necessary that The Company take the most suitable measures (however expensive They may Be) to have a good supply Sent out next year. The Trade of the Upper Countries And the Beaver trade in particular cannot be kept up otherwise.

We remain, with very profound respect, Monseigneur, Your very humble And Very obedient servants,

> LA GALISSONIERE HOCQUART