

maraye¹ as I Hope, I shall Listen to the proposals that they may Make to me, and shall give them only such answers as may be suitable to the good of the service and of the Colony. You may honor me, Monseigneur, with Your orders On this subject via new England for, from all appearances, those people will be unable to return before next year.

To prevent our Neighbors from knowing what You may have the honor of writing to me on the matter, in case they should Intercept Your Letters in order to read them, the Expedient that I have thought of, Monseigneur, would be for You to do me the honor of writing A Letter to me treating only of trivial and unimportant matters, dated the 20th December, which would mean that His majesty approves of the peace asked for by that nation; and In case his Intention should be that matters are to remain in their present Condition, the Letter should be dated the 31st December. These two different dates would have their meaning for me and would enable me to Carry out the Intentions of the Court in connection with a matter so deserving of attention. And I trust, Monseigneur, that you will be pleased to have that Letter sent to me by as safe a means as possible.

I shall have the honor of writing You by the King's Ship what the Renards may say to me on their behalf.

I have the honor to be with very profound respect, Monseigneur, Your very humble and very obedient Servant,

BEAUHARNOIS.

QUEBEC, August 17th, 1729.

¹Christophe Dufros, Sieur de la Jemerais, was born about 1708, son of a French officer at Montreal and Marie Renée Gaultier, sister of La Vérendrye. La Jemerais was apparently left in command of Fort Beauharnois, when De Boucherville's party abandoned it. He afterwards joined his uncle on his explorations for the Western Sea, and shared all the hardships and adventures of that search, until, worn out by fatigues, he died in the northern wilderness in 1736, only thirty years of age.—Ed.