

Item as well as to His entire Statement, there seems to have been great abuse, which should necessitate Explanations and Information which it is almost Impossible to obtain. The Sieur de Lignery contents himself with stating that everything was consumed with the exception of the little that remained at Missilimakinac; and establishing this by the Statement of the expenditure reported by the Commissary accompanying the army, which shows in Reality many purchases of Provisions, many presents to the savages, and other expenses, a considerable portion whereof he could have curtailed had he acted with all the economy that he should have displayed, and had he Considered his majesty's Interests alone. Such is the prudence which he should have observed, and which the Sieur de Beauharnois could not Explain in the order that he gave him for the purchase of Provisions, because it was impossible to foresee the various circumstances that might arise during a Campaign of Four or five months' duration. We admit however that if every officer had been placed in charge of the munitions in His Canoe there would have been less waste. Monsieur Dupuy ordered otherwise and committed the Goods to the charge of the Sieur du Laurent, a Willing Young man but Without Experience, who Was Unable to Control the consumption of the same, for the canoes of the Army were distributed by brigades and were formed into one body only at la Baye.

All these reasons have determined us, Monseigneur, to await further commands from you respecting the Sieur de Lignery. The Sieur Hocquart will give orders to sell the remainder of the munitions and Effects left by the Sieur de Lignery, the younger, at Missilimakinac with the Sieur Dubuisson,¹ the present commandant at that Post.

We shall continue, Monseigneur, to devote all our attention to Preventing the English from coming to carry on any Trade in the Colony, and to the Execution of the Letters Patent of the month of October 1727. And notwithstanding any representa-

¹ For biographical sketch of Dubuisson, see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, v, p. 118; xvi, index.—ED.