

make some arrangements necessitated by fresh disorders on the part of the Coureurs de bois, in regard to which he had not time to ask you for orders; but that he would avail himself of the first opportunity to communicate his views to you, not only concerning the posts I have just mentioned, but also regarding the fixing of boundaries for the trade of both colonies, so that in future you may both unite in promoting its spread, and in maintaining good order in the respective posts.

This information will show you that there is but little foundation for the reports made to you of acts of trespass against your rights that have been imputed to him; and, in addition to the fact that I know his ideas regarding you sufficiently well to believe that he will do nothing whereof you can complain, I must also believe that he understands the necessity of subordination too well to allow of his doing anything that might subvert it. Nevertheless, as nothing is more expedient that to take steps to restrain the Coureurs de bois whose number increases yearly in the Illinois country, and to stop the desertion of soldiers from that post, and as it appears that the measures proposed by Monsieur de Vaudreuil may contribute thereto, His Majesty desires that, after considering them, you will communicate yours to him, so as to elaborate a plan together to which His Majesty may give his approval.

If the conduct of the farmers of la Baye is such as the Sieur de Lusignan¹¹ has reported to you, one can not but approve the decision you took to order that officer to send back to Montreal the man named Augé, the one of them against whom complaints were more especially made. And if it is true, likewise, that those farmers have supplied the Coureurs de bois with goods, and have failed in their duty to the commandant, His Majesty has no doubt but that, after verifying the facts, you have enforced against them the regulations enacted on this subject. But may it not have happened that

¹¹ This officer is noted in *Ibid.*, p. 259. In addition to the facts there given, it should be stated that he was in command at La Baye (Green Bay), 1743-46.—Ed.