

1752: SAULT STE. MARIE

[Extract of a letter from the French minister to Du Quesne, dated June 16, 1752. Source, same as preceding document, but folio 34.]

VERSAILLES, June 16, 1752.

MONSIEUR—I reply to the letters written me by Monsieur the Marquis de Lajonquiere on the 4th, 5th, 6th, 25th, and 28th of October last year, regarding the establishment of various posts.

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In one of my despatches written last year to Monsieur de Lajonquiere, I had told him I had obtained approval for the construction of a fort at Sault Ste. Marie and the proposal to cultivate the land and raise cattle there. It is impossible not to approve the arrangements made for effecting such establishment. But we must take into consideration the fact that the cultivation of the land and the breeding of cattle must be the chief object, and the fur-trade merely an accessory. Nevertheless, as one can hardly hope to grow any other grain there than Indian corn, it will be necessary, at least for some time, to be satisfied with that and not to persist in trying to grow wheat. Even the care of the cattle must take precedence at that post over the cultivation of land, because as Detroit and the other Southern posts become settled they will supply an abundance of grain to the Northern posts, which will send them cattle in return.

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1752: THE TRADE AT DETROIT

[Letter from Longueuil, on business affairs. Document in Chicago Historical Society MSS., O. L. Schmidt Collection, No. 215.]

MONSIEUR—I have received all the letters that you have done me the honor of writing me. receive if you please my sin-