

Dame de La Ronde, has been refused. The King has, nevertheless, taken into consideration the unfortunate situation in which I informed him that Widow was placed, and His Majesty has been pleased to grant her for three years, counting from the present one, one third of the revenue that may be derived from the farming of that post for her account.

Monsieur Hocquart will be good enough to pay this to her. His Majesty, however, does not wish you to propose anything beyond it.

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1748: THE ILLINOIS SHOULD REVERT TO CANADA

[Letter from the French minister to La Galissonière, dated April 25, 1748. Source, same as preceding document, but folio 51.]<sup>17</sup>

VERSAILLES, April 25, 1748.

MONSIEUR—You are no doubt aware that the Illinois post was formerly an immediate dependency of the general government of Canada, and that it was only in 1717 that it was taken from it to be united to and incorporated with the particular government of Louisiana. The reasons for such change were that, in consequence of the desire then prevailing to favor the concessions of the company of the Occident, the addition of the Illinois country to the latter colony would be all the more advantageous to it that such country would supply fresh materials for its commerce, both through the trade with the Savages, and through the products of its cultivation. The working of the mines was also brought forward as an abundant source of wealth. And it was considered that there would be better opportunities of utilizing those advantages in Louisiana than in Canada.

But in the first place, the chief reason that then led to such

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<sup>17</sup> A letter of similar import was sent under the same date to Vaudreuil, governor of Louisiana. It is found in the same source as the preceding document, but under "Louisiana, folio 7."—Ed.