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1755: REGULATIONS FOR TRADE AT THE UPPER POSTS

[Ordinance, dated May 29, 1755, extended to July 6, annexed to a letter from Du Quesne, dated July 15, 1755. Source, same as preceding document, but "Canada, Corresp. gén., C 11, vol. 100, folio. 41."]

It having come to our knowledge that many voyageurs who obtain licenses multiply the number of canoes as much as they please without fear of inquiry regarding such abuse, as well as regarding brandy which they carry in excess of the quantity allowed, we have deemed it indispensable to remedy all such abuses, based on bad faith and independence, by means of the following articles:

Article 1.

When a canoe shall arrive at * * * the Sieur * * *, the commandant at such post, shall cause our permit to be shown him, and shall ascertain, with all the attention we deem him capable of with regard to the execution of our orders, whether the number of canoes is not in excess of that allowed by us, and, in the event of contravention, he shall seize and confiscate the whole cargo of the person who has committed the fraud, shall sell the same and send us the proceeds thereof to be distributed to the hospitals. He shall likewise send us, under good and safe custody, the person who had charge of the said cargo.

Article 2.

We order the Sieur * * * to make equally accurate inquiry regarding the quantity of brandy allowed and we order him, in the event of contravention, to inflict the same punishment under this article as under that regarding the number of canoes in excess.

Article 3.

Having been further informed that a number of voyageurs who go to the upper Country, establish their residence there, without our permission, either to trade by stealth between one