

utilized by the garrisons of the forts of Presqu'isle Marchant [Machault], de la Rivière au Bœuf, and Duquesne. These provisions will cost the king less than those sent from Mont-réal, the cost of transportation of which is immense, and the difficulty of the passage renders uncertain the subsistence of the garrisons.

It will be necessary also that the merchants of Detroit or others who might wish to establish themselves there in that capacity should have the liberty to carry back to Detroit without paying a license, the returns of packages, letters of exchange, or certificates that they carry to Mont-réal; for if this privilege is not accorded the establishment of Detroit will languish.

At this post there is a commandant, a major, and under their orders * * * subaltern officers, the garrison of * * * men is furnished by detached companies of marine. The post is exploited by licenses whose price is usually five hundred francs payable in cash and whose number is not fixed. The charges supported by the licenses are for the commandant, three thousand francs; for the second in command, a thousand francs; for the subalterns, five hundred francs; for the subdelegate, six hundred francs; for the interpreter, five hundred francs; for the chaplain, five hundred francs; for the surgeon, three hundred francs; each canoe is obliged to carry four hundred livres weight of merchandise for the officers and other employees of the said post, in consequence the officers engage in trade, which is thus not free, and there are abuses to correct.

The savages who come ordinarily to trade at Detroit are Hurons of the same family as those of Lorette, a perfidious, knavish tribe against whom one must be incessantly on guard. The Outawas, the Saulteux, and the Pouteouatamies, these latter are of all the savages the most attached to our interests, never having dipped their hands in the blood of any Frenchmen, they have even given us notice of plots formed against us