

sell their goods to the savages, owing to that of their leases, have so disgusted the savages that there is reason to fear they will carry their trade entirely to the English, unless a remedy be applied; that the system of licenses is the only one that can be adopted,⁴¹ because competition between the traders will lead to their selling cheaper, and the savages will be able to more easily supply their needs; that, as the savages who frequent the posts he proposes to farm out, have not yet complained of the farmers and, moreover, cannot so easily go to the English, the farming out may, in their case, be continued without any drawback.

The King, to whom I submitted this arrangement, was pleased to approve of it; and His Majesty therefore consents that the posts of Thémiscamingue, Nepigon, Camanistigouya, Michipicoton, and la pointe Chagoüamigon alone shall be farmed out, and that the others shall be operated by means of licenses. But His Majesty has imposed two conditions on such arrangement. The first is that no officer is to exploit any such post, and that they who go to command at them shall enjoy only the allowances which you will regulate according to their rank and to the expense they will be called upon to incur from the nature of the posts. The second is, that out of the proceeds of the licenses and farming out, Monsieur the Marquis de Lajonquière shall take only 10,000 livres for the aid which His Majesty is pleased to continue to grant to the poor families of the colony. The balance shall be paid into the treasury;

⁴¹ The licenses (*congés*) were originally established as a gratuity to the families of poor officers or gentlemen—furnishing a kind of pension. Abolished in 1696, they were re-established (1716) by a decree of the council of the marine in France. The order reads: "These permissions will be given to the poor families that the governor shall judge are most needy; they shall be countersigned by the intendant; moreover, if he shall find that the families to whom they are accorded are by their great misery not in position to make use of them themselves, those to whom they are assigned may sell them to the voyageurs of the country"—*Documents Historiques. Correspondence* (Quebec, 1893), 1, pp. 116, 117; see also *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xvii, pp. 100, 175, 388, 391.—ED.