

post, Without their being obliged to pay any rent or License. In this manner no remuneration would be paid him, the Mere Disposal of the post which he Asks would serve him as such. He Hopes to obtain This Favor from your Grace On Account of his 29 years of service and because of the Debts he Was obliged to contract to maintain the dignity of the King's Service at the posts which he has Commanded and which are Very Expensive owing to the number of persons who pass there and the officers of the garrisons. So far he has never Been granted any of the advantageous posts which Are always granted to persons in his position. This leads Him to have Recourse to your justice, Monseigneur, to obtain from You The Command of La Baye, or if you cannot do him the Favor of granting him the Commission of Major Commanding at Missilimaquinac, to give him the Command of one of those two Posts. This would put him in a Position, If His Majesty were willing to incur The expense of the journey, to go In person and make Known a Rich and abundant Copper Mine whereof he has a Knowledge from information from two voyageurs Devoted to him who Discovered it and wintered at its foot. It is in the vicinity of the Mississippi river The largest vessels of that country could load at the foot of the Mine for the Discovery of which Considerable Expense was incurred Under the Direction of Monsieur de Gruis some years ago.⁴² He Knows two Roads leading to it; The Shortest is by The post of La Baye. If Your Grace would give Him The Command there for six years and honor Him with your orders, he would go himself to conduct the person you would be pleased to appoint to Inspect it.

⁴² In 1743; see brief report in *Id.*, xiii, p. 276.—Ed.