

Fur Trade Contracts during the French Regime Researched by Diane Wolford Sheppard

Individuals who have not read FCHSM member Timothy J. Kent's books about Michilimackinac, Detroit, or the series about his ancestors,¹ often have mistaken ideas about how the fur trade operated under the French Regime. These impressions are often based on having relied on books about the Fur Trade during the British Regime. Links to introductory material about the fur trade can be found on the Fur Trade Page on the French-Canadian Heritage Society Website: <http://www.habitantheritage.org/french-canadian-resources/the-fur-trade>. See Suzanne Boivin Sommerville's article *The Fur Trade in Nouvelle France* and The Fort St. Joseph Archaeological Fur-Trade Booklet. Genealogical Information comes from one of the sources listed below.²

In light of these misconceptions, I have gathered representative contracts drafted during the French Regime, including *engagé contracts*, partnerships, partnership settlements, obligations, and invoices for fur trade purchases. Additionally, I have included a translation of the regulations used when an individual leased a post during the 1740s.

Reading through these contracts will provide you with a better understanding of how the fur trade operated during the French Regime. Genealogical information regarding the principals named in the contracts are from René Jetté, *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles du Québec des origines à 1730* (Montréal: Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal: 1983) and *Programme de recherche en démographie historique de l'Université de Montréal online*: <http://www.genealogie.umontreal.ca>.

14 October 1684 – Partnership:³

Messire Henri de Tonti,⁴ captain of a company of the marine and governor for the king of Fort St. Louis in the country of Louisiana under the authority of *Messire Robert Cavelier*, esquire, *Sieur de la Salle*, lieutenant-general for his majesty in the aforementioned said country of Louisiana, being present, has declared that he has made the following bargains and agreements with **Jean Baptiste Beauvais**,⁵ son of Jacques Beauvais, inhabitant of this island here present and assenting: that is to say that the aforesaid

¹ Timothy J. Kent, *Ft. Pontchartrain at Detroit: A Guide to the Daily Lives of Fur Trade and Military Personnel, Settlers, and Missionaries at French Posts* (Silver Fox Enterprises, 2001), hereafter Michilimackinac; Timothy J. Kent, *Rendezvous at the Straits Fur Trade and Military Activities at Fort de Buade and Fort Michilimackinac, 1669-1781* (Ossineke, Michigan: Silver Fox Enterprises, 2004), hereafter Detroit; Timothy J. Kent, *Phantoms of the French Fur Trade – Twenty Men Who Worked in the Trade Between 1618 and 1758* (Ossineke, Michigan: Silver Fox Enterprises, 2015), hereafter Phantoms of the French Fur Trade.

² René Jetté, *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles du Québec des origines à 1730* (Montréal: Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal: 1983); *Programme de recherche en démographie historique de l'Université de Montréal online*: (<http://www.genealogie.umontreal.ca>), hereafter PRDH-IGD; Drouin Institute, GenealogyQuebec (<https://www.genealogiequebec.com/Account/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fmembership%2fLAFRANCE%2fsearch%2fcouple%2f>), hereafter Lafrance; University of Toronto and Université Laval, *Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online*, (<http://www.biographi.ca/index-e.html>), hereafter DCB.

³ Theodore Calvin Pease and Raymond C. Werner (editors), *Collections of the Illinois State Historical Library, The French Foundations 1680-1693 (Volume 23 of the series)* (Springfield, Illinois: Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library, 1934), hereafter ILHC, Vol. 23, pp. 56-59. Pease notes that this partnership was drafted by Basset. The translations in this volume include the French text alternating with the English translation.

⁴ Henri de Tonti/Tonty – see his biography in the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online*: http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/tonty_henri_2E.html

⁵ Jean Baptiste Beauvais, son of Jacques Beauvais dit Saint-Jemme or Saint-Gemme, and Jeanne Soldé, was baptized 7 October 1662 in Montréal. He married Marie Madeleine Lemoine, daughter of Jean Lemoine and Madeleine de Chavigny, 12 November 1697 in Batiscan. He was a merchant [Jetté, pp. 70, 71].

Beauvais shall immediately set out from this island with the aforesaid *Monsieur* de Tonti to go with him into the aforesaid country of Louisiana, and being there to go among the Indian Tribes which shall be indicated to him by the aforesaid *Monsieur* de Tonti and to trade well and faithfully the merchandises which will be furnished to him and put in his hands in exchange for peltries and other things which are in trade between the Indians and the French. These merchandises shall be at the risk and subject to the losses and fortunes of the aforesaid *Monsieur* de Tonti provided that the aforesaid Beauvais shall be responsible for losses which may happen by misfortune or accident in case only that he [MS. Torn] dissipation and bad conduct by debauch, gambling, or in some similar way, in which case he shall be bound. The aforesaid merchandises traded for, with the resulting profits and returns, shall be equally divided between the aforesaid *Monsieur* de Tonti and the aforesaid Beauvais after the price and value of the said merchandise shall be deducted by the aforesaid *Sieur* de Tonti on the whole amount of what shall be provided on the basis that shall be agreed on between them, and according to the contract which shall be made with respect to the aforesaid merchandise and in favor of the aforesaid trade. Besides the aforesaid half of the said profits, the aforesaid *Monsieur* de Tonti promises the aforesaid Beauvais an *apichimo* of ten beavers and allows him further to trade for his own profit in the merchandise which he brings or shall have brought at his expense for one out of every two beavers, as well as a blanket and a gun and three shirts. In addition to the clauses and agreements aforesaid the aforesaid *Monsieur* de Tonti promises to give him by way of gratification, the sum of fifty *livres* a year; and in case that he is not content with the aforesaid profits or that he wishes to return, the aforesaid *Sieur* de Tonti consents that he do it when it seems good to him after he shall have adjusted the bargain with him with respect to the transaction that shall have taken place between them.

For thus promising, obligating himself, etc. and waiving, this has been done and concluded at the aforesaid Montréal and [MS. Torn] before noon on October 14, 1684, in the presence of *Sieur* Simon Guillory, *bourgeois* of this place, Pierre Cornillier, practicing and residing [MS. Illegible] who have signed with the aforesaid *Monsieur* de Tonti and my [MS. Torn] the aforesaid Beauvais declaring that he did not know how to write did not sign when interrogated in accord with the ordinance.

Henri de Tonti

witness
P. Cornillier

4 May 1685 – Engagement to the Ottawa:⁶

Before Hilaire Bourguine, notary of the Island of Montréal, and the undersigned witnesses was present **François Brunet**,⁷ son of Antoine Brunet, land-owning inhabitant of this island, at present in this city, who of his own free will and voluntarily, has bound and engaged himself and promised to well and faithfully serve **Michel Messier, Sieur de Saint Michel**,⁸ residing and present in this said city, who has specified and accepted him for the voyage of about eighteen months which he is going to make to the Ottawas. During this period, [Brunet] will do all that the *Sieur* Saint Michel commands or will command of him which seems honest and lawful. In consideration of which, the *Sieur* promises and obliges himself to give and pay to the said Brunet, upon his return from the said voyage, the sum of three hundred *livres* for wages and he has permission to trade, for his own profit, his gun and his blanket. The beaver pelts derived therefrom will be brought down with those of the *Sieur*, without any deductions from his wages.

⁶ Kent, *Michilimackinac*, p. 92 – reprinted with his permission.

⁷ François Brunet *dit* Bourbonnais, son of Antoine Brunet and Philippe David, was from Barlieu, Bourges, Bourbonnais (Cher), France. He married Barbe Beauvais, daughter of Jacques Beauvais and Jeanne Soldé, 11 July 1672 in Montréal [Jetté, p. 180].

⁸ Michel Messier, *Sieur* de Saint Michel – See his biography in the Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online: http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/messier_michel_2E.html.

Thus, everything having been willfully specified and agreed upon by the said parties, who have the intentions of being obligated to mortgage all of their possessions, present and future, they have promised, waived, and obligated themselves.

[This agreement] made and passed at Villemarie in the office of the notary, in the afternoon of the twenty-fourth day of May, sixteen hundred eighty-five, in the presence of François Pougnet and Claude Tardy, merchants of the said place, as witnesses, as required, who have signed with the said Saint Michel and the notary. The said Brunet has declared that he does not know how to write or sign, upon being questioned according to the ordinance.

Signed,
C. Tardy, F. Pougnet, Michel Messier, Bourguin

15 May 1685 – Partnership Agreement:⁹

Before **Claude Maugue**, royal notary in New France residing in Montréal and the undersigned witnesses there appeared in person the honorable **Olivier Morel, écuyer, seigneur de La Durantaye**¹⁰ on the one hand, and **Jean Morneau**¹¹ and **Jean Lariou**,¹² *habitants* of Batiscau, on the other hand, which parties have drawn up the following agreements, to wit: that the aforesaid Morneau and Lariou promise and obligate themselves to embark on the trip to the *Sta8ats* [Ottawa] in a canoe that the said sieur de La Durantaye will provide to them to trade the merchandise that they will take there according to the conditions stated below, to wit, that the said Morneau will have one third of the profit that he will make from the proceeds of both the trade goods and his work as a gunsmith and edge-toolmaker, and will assume the risk in proportion to the profits he will take out of the said partnership; in regard to the aforesaid Lariou, he will have the ordinary voyageur's share of the profits less the merchandise and other expenses paid with what he was able to draw in advance according to what is written in the bills concerning him; in addition [he] will be able to trade for his own profit one musket, one blanket, and two shirts; the aforesaid Sieur de La Durantaye recognizing furthermore that the aforesaid Morneau is providing the aforesaid association with fifty-two *livres*' worth of tools used for edge-toolmaking for which he will be paid and which he will get back. For thus, etc., promising, etc., obligating, etc., renouncing, etc., Done and drawn up in the aforesaid Montréal in the one of shops of sieur Lemoyne in the afternoon of the fifteenth of May sixteen hundred eighty-five, in the presence of Daniel Denevers and Anthoine Baillargeon witnesses present in this place undersigned with my aforesaid sieur de La Durantaye and Morneau, the aforesaid Lariou declaring that he does not know how to write or sign according to the inquiry in conformity to the ordinance, no more than the aforesaid witnesses [who were] also questioned.

La Durantaye
Jean Morneau
Maugue paraph.

⁹ Joseph L. Peyser (translator and editor) and José António Brandão (editor), *Edge of Empire – Documents of Michilimackinac, 1671 – 1716* (East Lansing and Mackinac/Michigan: Michigan State University Press, Mackinac State Historic Parks, 2008), pp. 61-62. I have not translated certain French terms, especially those used in conjunction with a name or title.

¹⁰ Olivier Morel, *sieur* de LaDurantaye, see his biography in the Dictionary of Biography Online: http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/morel_de_la_durantaye_olivier_2E.html

¹¹ Jean Morneau, son of François Morneau and Marie Mornet was born *circa* 1646 in France. He married Geneviève Tru, daughter of Mathurin Gareman, circa 28 February 1675 (contract – Duquet – Sillery) [Jetté, p. 840].

¹² Jean Lariou *dit* Lafontaine, son of Jean Lariou and Catherine Brusquet, was from St-Pierre or Mars d'Agenais, Marmande, Condom (Lot-et-Garonne), France. He married Catherine Mongeau, daughter of Pierre Mongeau and Louise Dubois, 16 April 1674 in Québec [Jetté, p. 655].

And furthermore after the signing of the agreement on the preceding page, the said Morneau and Lariou have agreed to what follows, to wit if one or the other were to be unwell, or if something untoward happened to him that prevented him from acting, the one that is well will take care to convert the trade goods into pelts and will take a man to replace the indisposed or deceased one, all to the advantage of the deceased as much as can be done, in order for him to retain, upon his return, the rights and distribution of his estate to his heirs and to those appertaining. Executed this said day 15 May, 1685 in the presence of the said witnesses who, with the said Lariou, declared they did not know how to sign, with the inquiry made according to the ordinance.

Jean Morneau
Maugue, royal notary

True copy.

19 August 1687 – Engagement:¹³

Agreement between Monsieur de la Forest¹⁴ and the Sieur de Broyeux.¹⁵

Before Antoine Adhémar, recorder, notary, and scrivener of the Isle of Montréal, residing at Villemarie, and the witnesses below named, were present in person the **Sieur François [Daupin] de la Forest**, captain in the detachment of the marine, acting both for himself and for **Monsieur [Henri] de Tonti**, on the one part, and **Sieur Jean de Broyeux**, of Batiscan, on the other part, which parties of their own free will have done and agreed between themselves in good faith, as follows: that is to say that the said *Sieur de Broyeux*, promises and engages himself to embark in whatever canoe the said *Sieur de la Forest* shall point out to him to assist in carrying merchandise to Fort St. Louis in the Illinois, and when he shall have arrived at the said fort he shall have his aforesaid store, shall trade with the Indians of the country and with the various tribes in the best and most advantageous way that shall be possible for him, shall look after and attend to all the business whatsoever that the said *Sieurs de Tonti* and *de la Forest* have in the said country of the Illinois, and be bound to do all that the aforesaid *Sieurs de Tonti* and *de la Forest* shall command him that is licit and honest and that he shall be able to do so, and all this for two whole years to commence on the day that he shall embark at Lachine to commence the said voyage and to finish on the same day at the end of two years. The said *Sieur de la Forest* shall be bound to furnish subsistence to the said *Sieur de Broyeux* as is customarily done in the said country of the Illinois and shall treat him well, and shall give him the further consideration of the sum of 1,000 *livres* for each of the two years which the said *Sieur la Forest*, both for himself and the said *Sieur de Tonti*, promises and obliges himself to pay to the *Sieur de la Broyeux*, or to the bearer of these presents on his behalf, in beaver returned and carried to this city at the end of each of the said two years; and at the end of the said two years the said *Sieur de Broyeux* shall be bound in coming down to help in bringing down a canoe charged with peltries for the said *Sieur de la Forest*; it is further agreed that during the said time of two years the said *Sieur de la Broyeux* may not carry on in the said country of the Illinois any trade directly or indirectly whatsoever except for the said *Sieur de Tonti* and *de la Forest*. For thus, etc., promising, etc., and engaging, etc.,

¹³ *ILHC*, Vol. 23, pp. 123-125.

¹⁴ François Daupin, *sieur de Lafort* – see his biography in the Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online: http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/dauphin_de_la_forest_francois_2E.html.

¹⁵ Jean Desbroyeux, son of Christophe Desbroyeux and Jeanne Duguay, was from St-Régis, Cognac, Saintes, Saintonge (Charente), France. He married Marguerite Dizy, daughter of Pierre Dizy and Marie Madeleine Drouillard, circa 25 January 1677 (contract – Adhémar – Champlain). He was an engageur in 1697 [Jetté, p. 338]. Marguerite Dizy was a surgeon – see her biography in the Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online: http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/dizy_marguerite_2E.html.

made and passed at the said Villemarie in the office of the aforesaid notary, august 19, 1687, in the afternoon, in presence of the *Sieurs* Jean Quenneville, and Louis Gillet, ushers in the bailiffs's office of the Isle of the said Montréal, residing at the said Villemarie, undersigned with the said parties and the notary, after hearing it read according to the ordinance.

F. De La Forest
J. Quenneville

De Broyeux
L. Gillet

Adhémar, notary

19 August 1687 – Engagement:¹⁶

Agreement between *Monsieur* [François Daupin, *sieur*] de la Forest and Dumay,¹⁷ accounting both for himself and Pichart.¹⁸

Before Antoine Adhémar, recorder, notary, and scrivener of the Isle of Montréal, residing at Villemarie, and the witnesses named at the end, were present in their own persons, the **Sieur François [Daupin] de la Forest**, captain in the detachment of the marine on the one part, and **François Dumay**, acting both for himself and for **Louis Pichart**, *voyageurs*, at present in this city, on the other part, which parties of their own free will and voluntarily have in good faith covenanted and agree as follows: that is to say, the said Dumay, for himself and for the party above named obligates himself to take for the said *Sieur* de la Forest, one thousand weight of merchandise as far as Fort St. Louis in the country of the Illinois on the stipulation that the said *Sieur* de la Forest shall furnish them a canoe and provisions such as are customarily furnished to *voyageurs* as far as the said Fort St. Louis; and in case there is no water in the river of the Illinois to pass with their canoe, the said *Sieur* de la Forest promises to have them aided in carrying or dragging the said merchandise as far as the said Fort St. Louis; and this is in further consideration of the sum of 600 *livres*, that is to say 300 *livres* each, which the said *Sieur* de la Forest promises and obliges himself to give and pay to them at the said Fort St. Louis in beaver whenever they shall have arrived there with the said merchandise. This payment of the said 600 *livres* in beaver the said Dumay and Pichart may load in the canoe that they are to bring back, without prejudice to the said parties from another agreement made with *Monsieur* [Henri] de Tonti for their return, which shall retain its force and effect; and further the said *Sieur* de la Forest permits the said Dumay and Pichart to carry to the said country of the Illinois up to the value of the sum of 100 *livres* for the two of them on the stipulation that they furnish the said *Sieur* de la Forest before their departure a statement of the merchandise and other things that they shall carry and embark in the said canoe; these goods they shall trade as seems good to them and they may carry in their said canoe the peltries that they obtain in the country of the Illinois to the amount or partial amount of the said merchandise; and in default of a statement by the said Dumay and Pichart of that they carry to the said country they shall not be permitted to carry anything there at all. For thus, etc., promising, etc., obligating, etc., and waiving, etc., made and passed at the said Villemarie in the office of the said notary, August 19, 1687, in the morning, in the presence of *Sieur* Jean Quenneville, usher of this jurisdiction, and Laurent Barrette, of Cap de la Madeleine, witnesses undersigned with the said *Sieur* de la Forest and the notary. The said Dumay has declared that he does not know how to sign when interrogated according to the ordinance.

¹⁶ *ILHC*, Vol. 23, pp. 126-128.

¹⁷ François Demers, son of Étienne Demers and Françoise Morin, was born 10 February 1663 and baptized 25 February 1663 in Sillery. In 1681, he was a *domestique* of the Jesuits at the Ottawa mission. In addition to the engagement translated above, he was also hired as a *voyageur* on 27 July 1688 and 7 July 1690, and acted as an *engageur* on 10 April 1696. He married Jeanne Roinay, daughter of François Roinay and Perrine Meunier, and widow of Étienne Bisailon, circa 3 May 1696 in Ste-Famille, Île d'Orléans [Jetté, pp. 106, 325, 327].

¹⁸ Louis Pichard, son of Jean Pichard and Louise Garnier, was baptized 29 January 1661 in Montréal. He married Marie Fortin, daughter of Louis Fortin and Catherine Godin, 17 October 1689 in Lachine [Jetté, p. 913].

Laurent Barette
J. Quenneville

F. De La Forest

Adhémar, notary

14 May 1688 – Engagement:¹⁹

Before Antoine Adhémar, recorder, notary, and scrivener of the Isle of Montréal, residing at Villemarie, and the witnesses below named, were present the *Sieur Nicolas Perrot*,²⁰ of the River St. Michel, near Three Rivers, at present in this city on the one part, and *Jacques Mousseaux, called Laviolette*,²¹ residing in this isle, on the other part, which parties of their good and free will have covenanted and agreed as follows: that is to say that the said Mousseaux has bound and engaged himself with the said *Sieur Perrot* to make the voyage to the Mascouten and Sioux and to set off tomorrow or the day after tomorrow and return in the autumn of the next year, 1689, during which time he shall be bound to work for the said *Sieur Perrot* and to do all that shall be commanded him that is honest and licit, as promptly and faithfully as he can, and to work for the profit of the said *Sieur Perrot* and to avert any loss for him if it comes to his knowledge; and the said *Sieur Perrot* promises to furnish provisions to the said Mousseaux during the aforesaid time and in addition the sum of 300 *livres*, which the said *Sieur Perrot* will pay to the said Mousseaux on the return from his voyage in this city in silver money. The said Mousseaux shall be allowed to carry to the said country a gun, six shirts, and a *capot*, which he may trade for his profit as seems good to him, which the aforesaid gun, shirts, and *capot* he shall buy at his own cost; and since the said Mousseaux shall depart from this city shortly and immediately, the said *Sieur Perrot* promises to have brought to the said country for the said Mousseaux the said gun, *capot*, and shirts, which shall be at the risk of the said Mousseaux, further the said Mousseaux shall have on his return his *apichimo* of ten beavers and in addition the aforesaid wages. For thus, etc., promising, etc., obligating themselves, etc., and waiving, etc., made and passed at Villemarie in the office of the said notary, May 14, 1688, in the afternoon, in the presence of François Bourgonnière and Julien Beaussault, clerks and witnesses, residing in the said Villemarie, undersigned with the said *Sieur Perrot* and the notary. The said Mousseaux has declared he does not know how to sign on being interrogated in accord with the ordinance after reading of the document.

Bourgonnière
Beaussault

N. Perrot

Adhémar, notary

2 August 1688 – Obligation:²²

Before Antoine Adhémar, notary and scrivener of the Island of Montréal, residing at Ville Marie, and the witnesses named at the end were present in person *Sieur Antoine Pascaud*,²³ merchant living in the town,

¹⁹ *ILHC*, Vol. 23, pp. 145-147.

²⁰ Nicolas Perrot – see his biography in the Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online: http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/perrot_nicolas_2E.html.

²¹ Jacques Mousseau *dit* Laviolette, son of Nicolas Mousseux and Jacqueline Janot, was from d'Azay-le-Rideau, Chinon, Tours, Touraine (Indre-et-Loire), France. He married Marguerite Sauviot, daughter of Jean Sauviot and Louise Brodeur, 16 September 1658 in Montréal [Jetté, p. 842].

²² Kent, *Phantoms of the French Fur Trade*, pp. 934-936 – reprinted with his permission.

²³ Antoine Pacaud or Pascaud, son of Guillaume Pascaud and Catherine Berteaud, was from La Prade, Périgoux, Périgord, France. He married Marguerite Bouat, daughter of Abraham Bouat and Marguerite de Nevelet, 21 January 1697 in Montréal [Jetté, p. 862]. You can read his biography in the Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online: http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/pascaud_antoine_1717_2E.html.

in the name of and as the legal representative of **Claude [Bouchard dit] Dorval**,²⁴ heir of the deceased Charles [sic, was Claude Bouchard dit] Dorval, based upon the power of attorney which was passed before Master Bénigne Basset, notary of this Island, on February 23 last, which he has granted and has afterward taken back except for the transaction which follows, **François Brunet dit [Le] Bourbonnais**, **Jean Boursier dit Lavigne**,²⁵ **Joseph Aubuchon**,²⁶ and Jean [sic, was **René, Jr.**] **Cuillierier**,²⁷ acting both for themselves and for **Michel Descaries**,²⁸ their partner, at present in the Illinois Country. Of their own free will and voluntarily [these six individuals] including the said *Sieur* Pascaud in the said name [of Dorval], have acknowledged and admitted that they well and truly owe to the *Sieur* **Hilaire Bourgine**,²⁹ merchant living in this town, present and assenting, the sum of 1,706 *livres 3 sols 6 deniers*, for good merchandise and used clothing which was delivered to them six days ago, as expressed in the invoice which he has given to the said debtors and which they have signed. The said sum of 1,706 *livres 3 sols 6 deniers* the said *Sieur* Pascaud, in the said name of and as the legal representative of the said Dorval, and the said Brunet, Boursier, Aubuchon, and Cuillierier promise and in solidarity are obliged to give and pay to the said *Sieur* Bourgine or to the bearer of these presents and in this town in good beaver pelts at the prices set by the official [of the export monopoly company] at Québec in the year 1689, under the bond and mortgage of all and each of the possessions, both moveable and real estate, present and future, of the said Brunet, Boursier, Aubuchon, and Cuillierier, and the said Pascaud in the name of the possessions and belongings of the said Dorval. For the execution of these presents, the said debtors have selected as their [temporary] legal residence [to which writs may be delivered], the house and residence of the said undersigned notary [Adhémar], situated on *Rue* Saint Paul. Thus they have promised and in solidarity have they obligated themselves. [This agreement] drawn up at the said Ville Marie in the office of the said notary on the second day of August, 1688 in the afternoon, in the presence of the *Sieurs* Pierre Cabazier and Silvain Guerin, witnesses living at the said Ville Marie, who have signed below with [the *Sieurs* Pascaud, Boursier, Bourgine,] Aubuchon and the notary. The said Brunet and Cuillierier have said and declared that they do not know how to sign, having been questioned after the reading was done, according to the ordinance.

Signed,

Pascaud, Jean Boursier, J. Aubuchon, Bourgine, Cabazie, Sillevain Guerin, and Adhémar, notary.

In addition, the said *Sieur* Pascaud, in the said name [of Dorval], and the said Joseph Aubuchon, acting for the individuals named in the said obligation, have acknowledged that they [also] owe the sum of 180 *livres* to the said *Sieur* Bourgine for one canoe [which he has provided to them], which they promise to pay as noted above, according to the same terms which were agreed upon by the parties in the said obligation and under the same penalties. Thus they have promised and obligated themselves. [This

²⁴ Claude Bouchard dit Dorval, *filis*, son of Claude Bouchard dit Dorval and Marguerite Bénard, was born *circa* 1660 in New France. He married Marie Madeleine Bélanger, daughter of Charles Bélanger and Barbe Cloutier, 15 February 1694 in Château-Richer [Jetté, pp. 132, 134].

²⁵ Jean Boursier dit Lavigne, son of Pierre Boursier and Marie Mouchet, was from St-Seurin-d'Uzet, près Mortagne-sur-Gironde, Saintes, Saintonge (Charente-Maritime), France. He married Marie Marthe Thibodeau, daughter of Mathurin Thibodeau and Catherine Avrard, 9 April 1673 in Montréal [Jetté, p. 155].

²⁶ Joseph Aubuchon. This was probably a reference to Joseph Aubuchon, son of Jean Aubuchon, *sieur* de Lespérance, and Marguerite Sédilot. He was baptized 19 March 1664 in Montréal. He married Élisabeth Cusson, daughter of Jean Cusson and Marie Foubert, 20 March 1688 in Montréal [Jetté, pp. 28, 29].

²⁷ René Cuillierier, *filis*, son of René Cuillierier and Marie Lucos, was baptized 16 January 1668 in Montréal. He drowned in October 1689 [Jetté, p. 395].

²⁸ Michel Descaries, son of Jean Descaries and Michelle Artus, was born and baptized 5 December 1656 in Montréal. He married Marie Cuillierier, daughter of René Cuillierier and Marie Lucos, 30 August 1691 in Montréal [Jetté, p. 338].

²⁹ Hilaire Bourgine's origins in France are not known. He married Marie Blet or Blette, *circa* 1688 in France [Jetté, p. 153].

agreement] drawn up on the fourth of August, 1688 in the morning, in the presence of the *Sieurs* Cabazier and Guerin, who have signed below with the said Pascaud, Aubuchon, Bourguine, and the notary, according to the ordinance.

Signed,

Pascaud, J. Aubuchon, Bourguine, Cabazie, Sillevain Guerin, and Adhémar, notary

3 August 1688 – **Invoice for a voyage to the Illinois**.³⁰

Timothy J. Kent notes “the order of the items has been rearranged, and they have been grouped into categories of daily-life activities. It is not possible to determine which of these articles were intended for the use of the three men themselves, and which of them were destined to become trade merchandise for native customers. It is highly likely that various of the items which are missing from this outfit were supplied by the Pelletier-Coutu partners themselves; this, it was not necessary for them to purchase these articles from their merchant outfitter. However, many of the missing items were probably not required for this particular trading trip. (In the French monetary system, twelve *deniers* equals one *sol*, and twenty *sols* equals one *livre*.)

Tim also annotates the invoice with information regarding missing items.

Invoice of the merchandise delivered for the account of *Madame* Antaya [**Marguerite Madeleine Morisseau**, widow of **François Pelletier dit Antaya**, resident of Sorel, and mother of Joseph and Michel]³¹ to the *Sieur François Coutu dit Le Picard* from Lavaltrie,³² **Joseph Pelletier**,³³ and **Michel Pelletier**,³⁴ to be paid in beaver pelts at the prices set by the office of the King at Quebec [the peltries exporting company] for letters of exchange on France, the third of August 1688, upon return from the Illinois Country, where they are going to trade.

[Transportation category]

1 canoe, for 160 *l.* (*livres*)

1 towing line, for 4 *l.*

1 towing line from the shop of *Monsieur Dupré* for 3 *l.*

1 sponge, for 8 *s.* (*sols*)

2 boxes (or chests), at 35 *s.* apiece

1 box (or chest) covered with black leather, for 6 *l.*

1 tumpline, for 35 *s.*

2 tumplines at Lachine, at 50 *s.* apiece

³⁰ Kent, *Phantoms of the French Fur Trade*, pp. 938-942 – reprinted with his permission.

³¹ Marguerite Madeleine Morisseau, daughter of Julien Morisseau and Anne Brelancour, was from St. Pierre, Roye, Montdidier, Amiens, Picardie (Somme), France. She married François Pelletier *dit* Antaya, son of Nicolas Pelletier and Jean Vouzy and widower of Dorothee, a Native American, 26 September 1661 in Québec [Jetté, p. 888].

³² François Coutu *dit* LePicard, son of Antoine Coutu and Marguerite Patou, was from Corbie, Amiens, Picardie (Somme), France. He married Jeanne Verdon, daughter of Vincent Verdon and Geneviève Pelletier, 4 November 1682 in Québec. After Jeanne's death, he married Louise Lesiège, daughter of Pierre Lesiège and Marguerite Laplace, *circa* 1691 in Lavaltrie [Jetté, p. 287].

³³ Joseph Pelletier, son of François Pelletier and Marguerite Morisseau, was baptized 22 March 1665 in Sillery. Joseph Pelletier never married [Jetté, p. 888].

³⁴ Michel Pelletier *dit* Antaya, son of François Pelletier and Marguerite Morisseau, was born *circa* 1674. He married Françoise Meneux, daughter of François Meneux and Marguerite Peuvrier, 9 July 1697 in Ste-Famille, Île-Orléans [Jetté, pp. 888, 889-890].

[No mention of paddles; setting poles; sailing rig; canoe-bottom poles; canoe repair kit (although the list does include crooked knives, butcher knives, axes, awls, and numerous kettles, one of which could have been utilized for melting repair gum, a mixture of pine pitch, fat, and pulverized charcoal); supplies of extra birchbark, sewing roots, and gum for making canoe repairs; long birchbark panels for covering traveling shelters; tarpaulins; ice creepers; or snowshoes]

[Foods, beverages, tobacco, and medicines category]

2 bushels of peas, at 50 s. per bushel

60 pounds of side pork, at 8 s. per pound

¼ bushel of salt, for 15 s.

12 [unites not given: ounces?] of nutmeg, at 2 s. 8 d. per unit

167 pounds of galette [thick, hard pancakes], at 14 s. per 5 pounds

6 bags to carry the galette, at 35 s. apiece

24 half-gallons of brandy, at 50 s. per half-gallon

1 half-gallon of brandy, for 50 s.

2 casks [for the brandy], at 50 s. apiece

46 pounds of tobacco, at 45 s. per pound

18 pounds of tobacco, at 45 s. per pound

2 calf skins to protect the tobacco, at 15 s. apiece

2 ounces of theriac [a mixture of various drugs and honey, formerly thought to be an antidote to poison], for 3 l.

[No mention of wine or containers for the peas, side pork, or salt]

[Hunting, warfare, and fishing category]

6 guns, at 22 *livres* apiece

2 utility guns, at 20 *livres* apiece

8 gun sheaths, at 30 s. apiece

100 pounds of gunpowder, at 25 s. per pound

3 casks to carry the powder, at 2 l. apiece

200 pounds of [bulk] lead, at 6 s. per pound

40 pounds of balls, of which 8 pounds are of royal lead, at 6 s. per pound

30 pounds of balls, from *Monsieur* Cuillerier, at 6 s. per pound

1 pound of balls, at 6 s.

200 gunflints, at 10 s. per hundred

60 gun worms, at 3 l. per hundred

100 iron arrow points, at 2 s. apiece

3 dozen [36] large butcher knives, at 3 l. per dozen

23 dozen [276] butcher knives, at 2 l. per dozen

8 ½ pounds of cord for [fishing] nets, at 25 s. per pound

[No mention of pistols, gunsmithing tools, powder flasks or horns, powder measures, shooting bags, shot and ball pouches, ball molds, snare wire, sword blades to be hafted as spears, harpoon heads, fish hooks, fishing line, or ice chisels].

[Fire-starting and cooking category]

24 fire steels, at 4 s. apiece

15 ¼ pounds of [brass or copper] kettles, at 45 s. per pound

50 pounds of [brass or copper] kettles, at 40 s. per pound

[Woodworking category]

6 large axes, at 45 s. apiece

6 small axes, at 20 s. apiece

30 axes, at 18 s. apiece
2 dozen [24] clasp knives, at 3 s. apiece
6 dozen [72] canoe [crooked] knives, at 22 s. per dozen
[No mention of adzes, augers, gimlets, drills, drawknives, chisels, wedges, froes, hammers, nails, or building hardware such as hinges, latches, and locks]

[Clothing items and blankets category]

10 pairs of stockings from Poitou, at 3 l. 10 s. per pair
12 pairs of trade stockings, at 45 s. per pair
7 trade shirts, at 3 l. apiece
6 shirts made of Meslis linen [hempen sailcloth], at 3 l. apiece
4 camisoles [rather tight-fitting overshirts or sleeping shirts with long sleeves], at 50 s. apiece
10 blue hooded coats at 8 l. 10 s. apiece
3 hooded coats, at 3 l. apiece
5 large lined dress coats, at 15 l. apiece
1 large dress coat, for 10 l.
1 dress coat, for 3 l.
9 pairs of sleeves, at 50 s. per pair
2 large blankets, at 16 l. apiece
2 blankets, at 10 l. apiece
3 blankets, from Normandy, at 8 l. apiece
[No mention of shoes, breeches, waistcoats, kerchiefs, caps, hats, gloves, or mittens]

[Bulk fabrics category]

15 yards of woolen stroud fabric, at 9 l. 10 s. per yard
1 ¼ yards of red woken limbourg fabric, 7 l. 10 s. per yard
19 ½ yards of woolen serge fabric for making hooded coats, at 4 l. 5 s. per yard
18 ½ yards of red [woolen] fabric for making hooded coats, at 4 l. 5 s. per yard
1 ½ yards of woolen Iroquoise fabric, at 4 l. per yard
10 yards of linen fabric, at 35 s. per yard
5 yards of linen fabric from the shop of *Monsieur* Arnaud, at 28 s. per yard
10 yards of linen fabric from the shop on *Monsieur* Arnaud, at 22 s. per yard
[Used by native customers to produce their own moccasin liners, leggings, knee garters, breechclouts, belts, sleeves, mantles, hoods, mittens, scarves, and turbans. No mention of silk or cotton fabrics, ribbons, binding tapes, or gartering material]

[Sewing and leather-working category]

30 awls, at 10 s. per dozen
200 needles, at 16 s. per hundred
8 pounds of sewing thread, at 3 l. per pound
[No mention of straight pins, thimbles, scissors, or hide scrapers]

[Ornaments category]

5 pounds of glass beads, at 2 l. per pound
[No mention of copper, brass, or iron wire, or bells. Native metalworkers fashioned finger rings, wrist bands, arm bands, ear bobs, nose rings, gorgets, pendants, head bands, hair pipes, tubular beads, and tinkling cones from copper and brass salvaged from pots and kettles]

[Grooming category]

1 ¾ pounds of soap, at 14 s. per pound
12 mirrors, at 5 s. apiece

4 dozen [48] combs, at 8 s. apiece
12 ¼ pounds of azure blue paint pigment, for 9 l.
[No mention of razors, wire for making spring tweezers, or vermilion pigment]

[Writing and recreation category]

1 writing set (or ink stand), for 1 l.

Some paper

[Tobacco and brandy listed earlier. No mention of pipes, snuff tobacco, snuff boxes, jews harps, playing cards, or dice]

Paid by my note to Monsieur [Alexandre] Turpin for expenses 114 l.

In money paid for them to [Monsieur] Champagne 4 l.

Amounting to the sum of two thousand eighty-four *livres*, six *sols* 2,084 *livres* 6 *sols*

[Three days later, additional purchases made by each of the two sons]

Joseph Pelletier owes on the 6th of August, 1688, the following, on the account of *Madame Antaya*

1 pair of shoes from the shop of *Monsieur* Arnaud, for 6 l.

1 pair of stocking, for 8 l.

As formerly on August 3, in money, 1 l. 12 s.

In money 1 l. 15 s.

Total 17 l. 7 s.

Michel Pelletier owes on the 6th of August, 1688, on the same current account

1 pair of shoes from the shop of *Monsieur* Arnaud, for 6 l. 15 s.

1 pair of stockings, for 8 l.

1 cap, for 1 l.

[Grand total of these additions] 32 *livres* 7 *sols*

29 July 1689 – Settlement of a Partnership:³⁵

Account settled between the *Sieurs* Cuillerier [Sr., and] Descaries, etc., his associates in the partnership in the Illinois Country.

Before etc. [Antoine Adhémar, notary] were present the *Sieurs* **René Cuillerier**, [Sr.,³⁶] merchant, and **Michel Descaries**, acting for and in the name of his other associates in the partnership and voyage which they had to the Country of the Illinois, they being [Jean Boursier dit] Lavigne, [François Brunet dit Le] Bourbonnais, René Cuillerier, Jr., Joseph Aubuchon, and others [Claude Bouchard dit Dorval, legally represented by Antoine Pascaud], who have said and declared that they are respectfully quit of all matters whatsoever that they have had in common due to the said partnership, declaring that the said Cuillerier [Sr.] has been paid for the contents in the invoice of the *Sieur* [Hilaire] Bourgine. Concerning this and in all matters, the said parties are in accord. [This agreement] made and drawn up at the said Ville Marie in the office of the said notary on July 29, 1689 in the morning, in the presence of the *Sieurs*

³⁵ Kent, *Phantoms of the French Fur Trade*, p. 948 – reprinted with his permission.

³⁶ René Cuillerier, *père*, son of Julien Cuillerier and Julienne Faitfeu, was from Clermont-Créans, La Flèche, Angers, Anjou (Sarthe) France. He married Marie Lucos, daughter of Léonard Lucos and Barbe Poisson, 13 April 1645 in Montréal. René Cuillerier was a merchant. See his biography in the Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online: http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/cuillerier_rene_2E.html.

Louis Chevalier and Georges Michelet, witnesses residing at the said Ville Marie, who have signed below with the said parties and the notary, according to the ordinance.

Signed,

René Cuillierier, Michel Descaries, L. Chevalier, Michellet, and Antoine Adhémar, notary.

Transaction for Detroit... 27 May 1701 – Translated by Suzanne Boivin Sommerville [her additions appear in brackets]

Present were Messieurs **Jean Bochart, chevalier, Seigneur de Champigny and Noroy**, Counselor of the King in his Councils, Intendant of Justice, police and finances in all the country of *La Nouvelle France*, acting for and in the name of His Majesty as one party; and Louis Babie of Champlain, Laurent Renauld of Montréal, Charles Dazé of la Rivière des Prairies, Jacques Lemoine of Batiscan, Claude Crevier of Trois-Rivières, René Besnard Bourjoly of Trois-Rivières, François Benoit dit Livernois of Longueuil, Pierre Moriceau of Montréal, Charles Cusson of Montréal, Jean Lemire dit Marsolet of Montréal, Jean-Baptiste Guay of Montréal, Jacques Brisset of l'Île-du-Pas, [Jean] François Frigon of Batiscan, Pierre Lagrave of Montréal, [~~André Babeuf of La Prairie~~, deleted], Pierre St. Michel, Michel Roy of Ste-Anne, Edmon Roy dit Chatelreau of Ste-Anne, Simon Ballargé of Cap-de-la-Magdeleine, Claude Rivard L'Orangé of Batiscan, Mathurin Feuilleverte, Jean Turcot of Charlesbourg, Jean-Baptiste Montmelian St-Germain of Québec, # [inserted in the margin: Pierre Desautels dit Lapointe, Henry Belleisle [a] Surgeon], Louis Fafart Lonval of Trois-Rivières, François Pacho of Batiscan, Jean-Baptiste Vanier of Charlebourg, Pierre Toupin of Beauport, René Lintot of Trois-Rivieres, Joseph Cartyé, Jacques Duran, Pierre Colet of Québec, Alexis Lemoine of Batiscan, Louis Chauvin of Montréal, Gabriel Obuchon of Montréal, Latour of Montréal, Lambert Cuillérié of Montreal, Pierre Roy of Ste-Anne, Louis Vaudry of Montréal, Pierre Richard of Montréal, Louis Badaillac of Montréal, Guillaume Vinet dit La Rente, Jean-Baptiste Gatineau, and Louis Gatineau dit Lameslée,

All voyageurs being at present in this said city, as the second party, which parties have contracted and been hired for the following: Be it known that the Said Voyageurs have voluntarily and in good faith hired themselves out, promised, and do promise to faithfully serve the King, to go to Détroit under the leadership of **Sieur de Lamothe Cadillac**, who will command at the said place of Détroit under the orders of **Monsieur Le Chevallier de Callières**, governor and lieutenant general for the King [end of page 1]

in all this country of New France, to whom or to whosoever commands in his place, the said voyageurs promise to obey, to work, and to do all that he will command them, during which time the said voyageurs will not be allowed to do any trading for their profit, directly or indirectly, in any manner at all, subject to the penalty of the laws and of the loss of their wages and salary hereafter declared. This contract is made with the understanding that the hirees will be fed at the expense of the King according to the usual custom for voyageurs, and in addition there will be paid to them in this city or to their *procureur* [agent] holding their *procuration* [power of attorney] in good form passed before a notary for each year of service beginning the 1st day of June next year, be it known: to each of the said

Louis Babie; Laurant Renauld; Charles Dazé; Jacques Lemoine; Claude Crevier; René Besnard Bourjoli; François Benoit dit Livernois; Pierre Moriceau; Charles Cusson; Jean Lemire dit Marsolet; Jean Baptiste Guay; Jacques Briset; François Frigon; Pierre Lagrave, [~~André Babeuf~~, deleted], Michel Roy, Edmon Roy dit Chatelreau; Simon Bailiarge; Claude Rivard L'Orangé; Mathurin Feuilleverte; Jean Turcot; Jean Baptiste Montmelian St. Germain; Pierre St. Michel; Gatineau Duplessy; Desautels; and BelleIsle, the sum of

300 *livres* money of France, which totals 400 *livres du pays* [of the country of New France], and to each of the said

Louis Fafard Lonval; François Pachot; Jean Baptiste Vanier; Pierre Toupin; René Lintot; Joseph Cartier; Jacques Durant; Pierre Colet; Alexis Lemoine; Louis Chauvin; Gabriel Obuchon; Latour; Lambert Cuillerié; Pierre Roy; Louis Vaudry; Pierre Richard; Louis Badaillac La Plante; Guillaume Vinet La Rente; Louis Gastineau Lameslee, the sum of

225 *livres* of France, which totals 300 *livres du pays*, for their wages and salary of the said year.

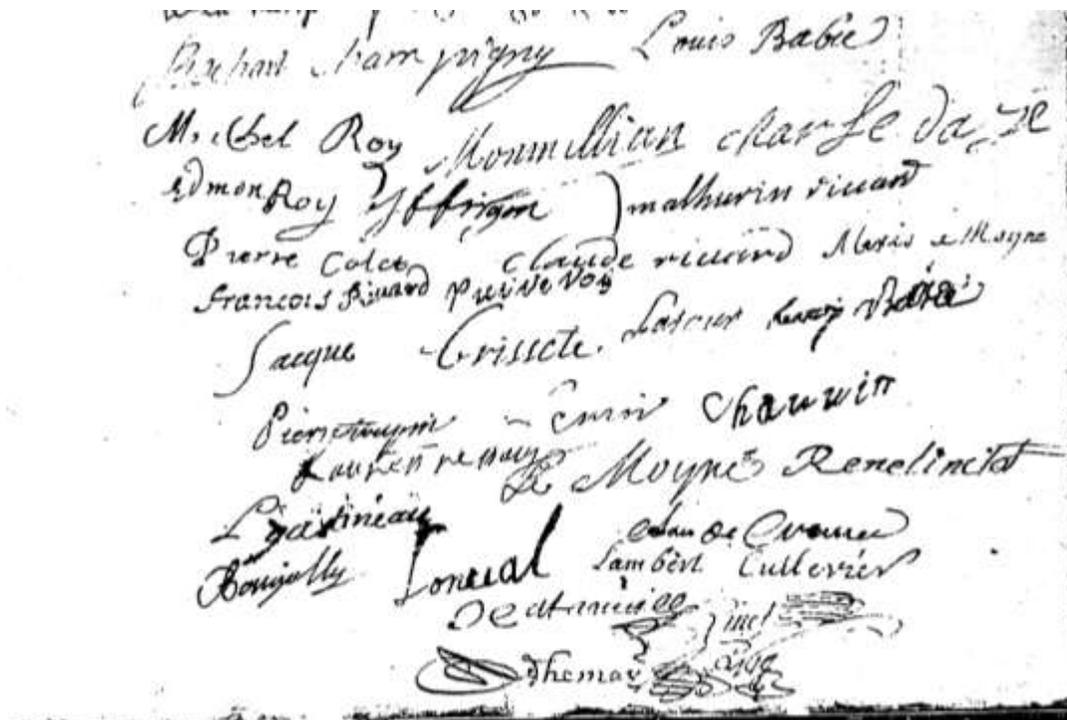
[And] with the understanding that of the skins of the animals that the said [end page 2]

voyageurs will kill, half will belong to them of those that they carry to the store [*magazin*] that will be established at the said place of Détroit, for which they will receive certificates from the store keeper [*garde magazin*], and half of the *pelletteries* will be paid according to the rate that will be agreed upon at the said place of Détroit; [*sinon*] if not, the said *pelletteries* will be brought down to this said city at the expense of the King, and, being in this said city [Montréal] half of these will belong to the King and the other half to the *voyageurs* ### [inserted from below] Who, in case of illness will be treated at the King's expense by the surgeon who is going up to Détroit, and that the weapons of the said *voyageurs* will be repaired at the King's expense. It will be permitted for them to take the skins of the animals they kill to make Indian shoes only for their own use, and at the end of the first year of the present contract [it will be allowed to] the said *voyageurs* to quit this said service by advising the *Sieur* Lamothe Cadillac before the first convoy that goes down [down river to the mother colony].

Thus has been agreed between the said parties, promising, *etc.*, obliging, *etc.*, renouncing, *etc.* And passed at the said Villemarie in the house [*hôtel*] of My said *seigneur* the Intendant in the year of seventeen hundred and one the twenty-seventh day of May before noon (~~and with my said seigneur intendant have signed—these words deleted~~) in the presence of *Sieurs* Antoine Hatanville and Pierre Rivet, practicing witnesses at the said Villemarie, signing below with My said named *Seigneur* the Intendant and the Notary, the said Babie; Michel, Edmond, and Pierre Roy; Monmellian; Dazé; Frigon; Claude, Mathurin, and François Rivard, brothers; Collet; Alexis Lemoyne; Brisset; Latour; Belleisle; Toupin; Lemire; Chauvin; Renaud; Lemoyne; Lintost; Gatineau; Longval; Bourjoly; Claude Crevier; and Lambert Cuillerié. The other previously named declared they were unable to read or sign when asked [*enquis*] following the laws [*ordonnances*].

[signed] <i>Bochart Champigny</i>	<i>Louis Babie</i>	
<i>Michel Roy</i>	<i>Monmellian</i>	<i>Charle Dazé</i>
<i>Edmon Roy</i>	J[ean] F[rançois] frigon	<i>Mathurin Rivard</i>
<i>Pierre Colet</i>	<i>Claude Rivard</i>	<i>Alexis LeMoyne</i>
<i>François Rivard</i>	<i>Pierre Roy</i>	
<i>Jacque Brissett</i>	<i>Latour</i>	<i>Henry Bellisle</i>
<i>Pierre Toupin</i>	<i>Lemire</i>	<i>Chauvin</i>
<i>Laurent Renaud</i>		
	<i>Le Moyne</i>	<i>Rene Linctot</i>
<i>L Gastineau</i>		<i>Claude Crevier</i>
<i>Bourjoly</i>	<i>Lonval</i>	<i>Lambert Cuilerier</i>
	<i>Hatanville</i>	<i>Rivet</i>
	<i>Adhémar, notaire royal</i>	[<i>Paraphe</i> , a fancy scribble also used as a signature]

Signatures:



Boschart Champigny		Louis Babie
Michel Roy	Monmillian	Charle daze
Edmon Roy	j f frigon	mathurin rivard
Pierre Colet		claude rivard
francois Rivard	Pierre roy	Alexis Le Moyne
Jacque brissete	Latour	henry Belle
Pierre toupin	Lemir	chauvin
Laurent reneau		
	Le Moyne	Rene linctot
L gatineau		claude Crevier
Bourjolly	Lonval	Lambert Cullerier
	De atanville	Rivet [with paraph]
	Adhemar	[with paraph]

Addition 7 April 2015: Gail Moreau-DesHarnais has made the following discovery:

- **François Rivard signed with his brothers Mathurin and Claude Rivard, as indicated at the end of the contract and above. His name is not enumerated in the body of the contract among the men hired to go to Détroit.**

Also part of the 1701 founding convoy, hired in other separate contracts:

Bertrand Arnaud, Guillaume Bonnet *dit* Deliard, Joseph Brault *dit* Pomainville, François Fafard *dit* Delorme, Pierre Gauvreau, Jacques Viger, Pierre Verdon, Étienne Volant, *sieur de* Radisson

Hired 27 & 28 June 1701:

Jean-Baptiste Giguère, Antoine Thunay *dit* Dufresne, Mathieu Perrin *dit* Garao, François Trottier *dit* Bellecour

Hired 5 September 1701, to accompany **Mesdames de Lamothe Cadillac and de Tonty** to the fort and to return the same year:

Joseph Trottier *dit* Desruisseaux, Robert Réaume, Toussaint Pothier

6 April 1707 – Engagement – Translated by Suzanne Boivin Sommerville [additions in brackets]

Were present **Sieur François Ardouin**,³⁷ merchant, living in this city [Ville Marie or Montréal], conducting at present in this city the affairs of **Monsieur Antoine de Lamothe Cadillac**, Captain and Commandant for the King at Fort Pontchartrain of Lake Erie, as one party, and **George [Brault]**³⁸ and **Jean Brault**,³⁹ brothers, and **François Brunet dit Le Bourbonnais** of the parish of Lachine on this island, who are present in this city, as the other parties, which parties have agreed upon the following. That is to say, the said Brault brothers and the said Brunet have promised, all for one and one for all, one for the other and each of them for the whole group, without division, discussion, or disregard [not sure of this word], renouncing any benefits to the said parties, to depart from this city as soon as navigation is open and to carry in the canoe they will occupy in going up [river] for the said *Sr.* de Lamothe three hundred [*livres*] in weight [*pesant*] of merchandise that the said *Sieur* Ardouin will provide, which, upon their arrival at the said Fort Pontchartrain, they will place into the hands and control of the said *Sieur* de Lamothe in good condition. And in coming down [river to Montréal], they will transport for the said *Sieur* de Lamothe to this city all of the weight of peltries that the said *Sieur* de Lamothe will give them at the said fort, which they will convey on coming back down to this city to the person and according to the orders of the said *Sieur* de Lamothe, also in good condition, entirely secure from the rigors of the voyage. [words crossed out] without being allowed to ask for anything for transporting merchandise and peltries in consequence of the said *Sieur* Ardouin permitting them to trade the merchandise that they will carry for themselves, when they arrive at the said Fort Pontchartrain. Thus they have promised, obligated themselves, renounced, etc.

[This agreement] made and passed at the said Ville Marie [Montréal] in the office of the said notary, in the year one thousand seven hundred seven, on the sixth day of April in the afternoon, in the presence of the *Sieurs* Charles Villiers, merchant, and Alexandre Rivet, witnesses living in the said Ville Marie, who have signed below with the said *Sieurs* Ardouin and the notary. The said Brault brothers and the said Brunet have declared that they do not know how to write or sign, upon being questioned after the reading was done, according to the ordinance.

It has been agreed that the twenty-one words which are crossed out [in this document] have no value. [The deleted text is not included here, but it may be seen on the original document and on page 1036 of Kent.⁴⁰]

³⁷ François Ardouin, son of Pierre Ardouin and Jeanne Roy, was from St-Jean-de-Coutras, Libourne, Bordeaux, Guyenne (Gironde), France. He was a merchant. He married Marie Anne Barrois, daughter of Antoine Barrois and Anne LeBer, 17 October 1697 in Montréal [Jetté, p. 19].

³⁸ Georges Brault *dit* Pomainville, son of Henri Brault and Claude de Chevrainville *dite* Lafontaine, was born 23 March 1668 in Lauzon and baptized 8 April 1668 in Québec. He married Barbe Brunet, daughter of François Brunet and Barbe Beauvais, 26 November 1696 in Lachine [Jetté, pp. 165-166].

³⁹ Jean Baptiste Brault *dit* Pomainville, son of Henri Brault and Claude de Chevrainville *dite* Lafontaine, was born and baptized 26 June 1673 in Québec. He married Élisabeth Brunet, daughter of François Brunet and Barbe Beauvais, 26 November 1703 in Lachine [Jetté, pp. 165, 166].

⁴⁰ Timothy J. Kent, *Ft. Pontchartrain at Detroit: A Guide to the Daily Lives of Fur Trade and Military Personnel, Settlers, and Missionaries at French Posts* (Silver Fox Enterprises, 2001), Appendix 20, pp. 1036-1037. Reprinted with his permission



Signed,
Ardouin, Rivet, C. Villiers,
Adhémar, notary

3 June 1713 – Obligation⁴¹

Before Michel Le Pallier, royal notary of the Island of Montréal, residing at Ville Marie [Montréal], undersigned with the witnesses named below, were present the *Sieurs* **Robert Réaume**⁴² of his island and *Sieur* **Pierre Perthuis** [dit] **La Janvire**,⁴³ who upon their departure to go up to Fort Pontchartrain have acknowledged and admitted to be indebted to *Sieur* **Simon Réaume**,⁴⁴ merchant of this town, who is present and has agreed, the sum of nineteen hundred seventy-nine *livres* two *sols*, for good merchandise which the creditor has furnished to them for their equipment and commerce for the said voyage, according to the invoice which he has given them, and with which the said *Sieurs* are content and satisfied, which said sum of nineteen hundred seventy-nine *livres* the said debtors have promised and obligated themselves, solidly one for the other and the two of them only for the whole, without division or discussion, to deliver and pay to the said creditor or upon his order during the month of August of the next year, one thousand seven hundred fourteen, in beaver at the price of the Office in good peltries at the current price of the merchants at the time. In return for the said cargo, they have obligated all of their possessions, present and future, and in particular all of the cargo which they will bring or send from the said voyage, as the natural wages of the said creditor. As satisfaction [collateral], they have put up their domicile at Ville Marie, the home of *Sieur* Urbain Gervais, situated on St. Joseph Street. Thus they have promised, obligated themselves, renounced, etc.

[This agreement] made and passed at the said Ville Marie at the home of the said *Sieur* [Simon] Réaume, in the afternoon of the third day of June, one thousand seven hundred thirteen, in the presence of *Sieurs* Claude du Devoir and Jacques Lory [dit] Duplanty, coopers, as witnesses who have signed with the parties and the notary.

Signed
Pierre Perthuy, Simon Réaume

⁴¹ Kent, *Detroit*, Appendix 8, p. 1027 – Reprinted with his permission.

⁴² Robert Réaume, son of René Réaume and Marie Chevreau, was born 25 January 1668 and baptized the following day in Québec. He married Élisabeth Brunet, daughter of Antoine Brunet and Françoise Moisan, 22 September 1696 in Montréal [Jetté, pp. 970, 971].

⁴³ Pierre Perthuis, *sieur* de LaJanvry, son of Pierre Perthuis dit Lalime, and Claude Damisé, was baptized 22 May 1691 in Montréal. He married Angélique Caron, daughter of Vital Caron and Marguerite Gagnon, 24 January 1713 in Québec. He married Marie Catherine Mallet, circa 18 March 1716 (contract, LePallieur, Montréal. Pierre Perthuis was a fur merchant [Jetté, pp. 902, 903].

⁴⁴ Simon Réaume, son of René Réaume and Marie Chevreau, was born 7 November 1669 and baptized 9 November 1669 in Québec. He married Thérèse Catin, daughter of Henri Catin and Jeanne Brossard, 19 March 1710 in Montréal [Jetté, pp. 970, 971]. His wife took a very active role in the fur trade.

Le Pallieur, notary

[In the margin]

Was present **Dame Thérèse Catin**, wife of *Sieur* Simon Réaume, who has acknowledged that she has received from the said Robert Réaume and *Sieur* Pierre Perthuis the contents of the obligation, so that nothing is left in this agreement for the future concerning this cargo, having delivered the discharge of the said obligation of the *Sieurs* Perthuis and Réaume to the notary on this third of September, one thousand seven hundred fourteen.

Signed, Le Paillier, notary

10 September 1715 – **Ledger entries:**⁴⁵

Jean Alexis Lemoine dit Monière's⁴⁶ Ledger Entries for merchandise sent to **Jean Louis Bourgery**⁴⁷ in Detroit under a 26 June 1715 power of attorney which Bourgery granted to **Gédéon de Catalogne**.

Timothy J. Kent notes that he rearranged the order of the entries in the ledger.

September 10, 1715

Debit: *Sieur* Jean Louis Bourgery for merchandise sent to him following his power of attorney to *Monsieur* Décatalonge, dated June 26, 1715:

.....	<i>livres</i>
17 ½ yds. blue fabric and 17 ½ yards red fabric @ 16.1 <i>l.</i> [<i>livres</i>].....	360.00
8 yds. white revesche fabric and 8 yds. blue revesche fabric @ 9 <i>l.</i>	144.00
3 yds, fabric from Mazamet @ 8 <i>l.</i>	24.00
1 piece binding tape or gartering.....	5.00
100 needles.....	1.50
1 lb. thread from Poitou	6.00
12 shirts for men @ 6 <i>l.</i>	72.00
12 chemises for women @ 5 <i>l.</i>	60.00
6 shirts for boys @ 4 <i>l.</i>	24.00
6 shirts, medium size @ 3 <i>l.</i>	18.00
3 hooded coats for men @ 29.5 <i>l.</i>	88.50
3 hooded coats for women @ 25.5 <i>l.</i>	76.50
4 2-point blankets @ 18 <i>l.</i>	72.00
53 ½ lbs. kettles @ 4.5 <i>l.</i>	240.75
12 axes @ 3 <i>l.</i>	36.00
2 dozen <i>flatin</i> clasp knives @ 5 <i>l.</i>	10.00
1 dozen Siamese knives, medium size	4.50
1 dozen knives with 5 rivets.....	5.00

⁴⁵ Kent, *Detroit*, Appendix 20, pp. 1059-1060. Reprinted with his permission.

⁴⁶ Jean Alexis Lemoine *dit* or *sieur* de Monière, son of Jean Lemoine and Marie Madeleine de Chavigny, was born and baptized 14 October 1680 in La Pérade. He married Marie Louise Kembal, a captive from New England, 22 March 1715 in Québec. He married Marie Josèphe de Couagne, daughter of Charles de Couagne and Marie Godé, 12 August 1725 in Montréal. Jean Alexis Lemoine was a fur merchant [Jetté, pp. 711, 713; *DCB* - http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/lemoine_alexis_3E.html].

⁴⁷ Jean Louis Bourgery, son of Pierre Bourgery and Marie Boutard, was born 9 December 1685 and baptized 12 December in Boucherville [Jetté, p. 152]. He married Anne Alimacoua, daughter of Nicolas Alimacoua, a member of the *Quescacan* (Kiskakon? or Bear Clan of the Ottawa/Odawa) Nation and Marguerite Potish, a member of the *Argonquine* (Algonquin?) Nation, 6 August 1717 in Détroit [Jetté, p. 152].

½ gross awls @ 12 l. per gross	6.00
1 dozen oval fire steels.....	5.00
4 dozen signet/seal finger rings @ 1 l.....	4.00
5 lbs. agate glass beads @ 7 l.....	35.00
5 lbs. milky-white glass beads @ 6 l.....	30.00
1 dozen tin plate mirrors	6.0
1 lb. vermilion.....	24.00
1 lb. vermilion, sent to him per Forestier, as directed in 1712.....	25.00
1 dozen [wooden] combs	6.00
41 ½ lbs. gunpowder @ 2.5 l.....	103.75
1 keg for the gunpowder	4.00
61 lbs. gun balls @ 1 l.....	61.00
1 bag for the gun balls.....	1.00
2 dozen gun worms @ 4 l.	4.00
100 gunflints @ 2 l. per 100	2.00
1 crate.....	4.00
1 ½ yds. hempen linen for packing	6.00
¼ of St-Yves' canoe.....	50.00
1 lb. gum	1.50
1 bark strip for shelter	8.00
½ bu. peas	4.00
1 bag for the peas	2.50
20 lbs. pork @ 1 l.....	20.00
1 bag for the pork.....	1.50
¼ [bu.] salt @ 20 l.....	5.00
80 lbs. biscuit @ 35 l. per 100 lbs.....	28.00
20 lbs. biscuit @ 35 l. per 100 lbs.....	7.00
2 half-gallons of brandy @ 8 l.	16.00
1 keg for the brandy.....	4.00
15 half-gallons red wine.....	45.00
1 keg for the wine	4.00
transport to Lachine	15.00
freight for 5 packs of beaver from Detroit to Montréal @ 20 l.....	100.00

15 May 1718 – Partnership and Obligation:⁴⁸

Before the royal notary of the Island of Montréal, residing at Villemarie, who has signed below, were present *Dame Anne Robutel*,⁴⁹ wife and agent of Master **Constant Lemarchand**, Esquire, *Seigneur de Lignery*,⁵⁰ Captain of a company of the troops of the detachment of the Marine Department, *Commandant*

⁴⁸ Kent, *Phantoms of the Fur Trade*, pp. 1307-1308 – Reprinted with his permission.

⁴⁹ Anne Françoise Robutel, daughter of Claude Robutel, *sieur* de Saint-André, and Suzanne de Gabriel, was baptized 5 February 1662 in Montréal. She married Constant LeMarchand [Jetté, p. 1000].

⁵⁰ Constant LeMarchand, *sieur* de Lignery, son of Joseph LeMarchand and Marguerite Dusellar, was from LaGiraudière or Charentilly, Tours, Touraine (Indre-et-Loire), France. He married Anne Robutel. 19 November

for the King at Michilimackinac, and by him authorized, of the one part, and *Sieur Robert Réaume*, *habitant* of this Island, *voyageur*, of the other part, which parties have formed a partnership together for the commerce of the said place. To that end, the said *Sieur Réaume* has obligated himself to depart immediately from this town, to go up to the said place of Michilimackinac in order to join the said, *Sieur de Lignery*, and to deliver the articles sent to the said *Sieur de Lignery* and entrusted to him by the said *Dame*, with all of the articles which will constitute the said partnership for the commerce, for the profit of which he will work as advantageously as he will be able. After the [wages of the] men, canoes, wine, implements, and other necessary things have been paid for, the profit will be divided in halves between them.

It is understood that the merchandise and supplies for the exploitation of their partnership amount to 6,779 *livres 9 sols*, according to the invoices which were presented and furnished. Of this sum, the *Sieur François Poulin*,⁵¹ merchant of this town, has said that he furnished the sum of 3,774 *livres 9 sols*, while *Madame de Lignery* furnished 3,005 *livres*, making the said sum 6,779 *livres 9 sols*.

The said partnership has acknowledged and declared that they are indebted to the said *Sieur Poulin*. And said *Dame de Lignery* and each of them have, by their consideration, promised and obligated themselves to return, give, and pay the sums to the said *Sieur Poulin* and *Dame de Lignery* during all of the month of August of the next year 1719, or earlier if the articles of the said partnership returning to this town have arrived. Of these, the said *Sieur Poulin* will have the right to all of the said assets for the sum of 3,774 *livres 9 sols*, while from the remainder will be taken 3,005 *livres* for the said *Dame de Lignery*, all in good beaver pelts at the price of the office [of the export monopoly company] and other good peltries [of other animals] at the current prices, to pay for the outfitting. The surplus will be divided in equal parts between the said *Dame de Lignery* and the said *Sieur Réaume*. To satisfy all of the above, the said *Dame de Lignery* and the said *Sieur Réaume*, solidly with the said *Sieur de Lignery*, one for the other and each of them only for the whole, without division or dispute, waiving the right of dissolution, have given their promise and obligated themselves to return, give, and pay to the said *Sieur Poulin* and to the said *Dame de Lignery*, according to their shares, the sum of 6,779 *livres 9 sols*, in beaver pelts and [other] peltries as was noted, according to the terms as stated. To this end, they have obligated themselves and mortgaged solidly, as was noted, all of their possessions, both present and future, and in particular all of the articles which will be brought back for the said partnership as the proceeds from the supplies which were delivered by the said invoice. For the execution of these presents, they have selected as their legal residence [to which writs may be delivered] the home of the said *Sieur de Lignery* near this town. Thus have they promised, obligated themselves, waived, etc.

[This agreement] made and drawn up at the said *Villemarie* at the home at the said *Sieur Poulin*, in the afternoon on the fifteenth day of May, 1718, in the presence of the *Sieurs Charles Alavoine* and *Vincent Lenoir*, called as witnesses, who have signed with the said parties and the notary after the reading was done, according to the ordinance.

Signed,

A. Robutel de Lignery, R. Réaume, F. Poulin *et Comp[agni]e*, Alavoine, Le Noir, and Le Pailleur

1691 in Montréal [Jetté, pp. 703-704; *DCB* -

http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/le_marchand_de_lignery_constant_2E.html].

⁵¹ François Poulin, *sieur de Francheville*, son of Michel Poulin, *sieur de Saint Maurice*, and Marie Jutras, was born 1 October 1692 and baptized the following day in Trois-Rivières [Jetté, p. 938]. He married Thérèse de Couagne, daughter of Charles de Couagne and Marie Godé, 27 November 1718 in Montréal. He was a merchant; his wife took over his business after his death [Jetté, p. 940; *DCB* -

http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/poulin_de_francheville_francois_2E.html - Poulin and

http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/couagne_therese_de_3E.html - Thérèse de Couagne].

September 1724 – Invoice:⁵²

In the introduction to this invoice, Timothy J. Kent noted that on 5 September 1724, **Jean Alexis Lemoine dit Monière** also listed a large consignment of woolen fabrics, tobacco, and wine totaling 2,829.7 *livres* that was also provided to **Jacques Campeau**.⁵³

September [----], 1724

Invoice for merchandise sold to Jacques Campeau and delivered, per his instructions, to **Pierre Réaume**⁵⁴ and **Chapoton**,⁵⁵ namely;

	<i>Livres</i>
1 piece of red woolen cloth.....	
2000 pins @ 2 <i>l.</i>	4.00
4 lbs. gedoin thread @ 5 <i>l.</i>	20.00
6 tapaboard caps @ 3.5 <i>l.</i>	21.00
1 2-point blanket.....	13.50
1 covered pot with three legs, weighing 5 ½ lbs., @ 4 <i>l.</i> per pound.....	22.00
16 lbs. of small kettles @ 4 <i>l.</i> per lb.....	64.00
6 axes @ 2.5 <i>l.</i>	15.00
2 tomahawks @ 1.5 <i>l.</i>	3.00
7 dozen knives @ 3 <i>l.</i>	21.00
4 butcher knives @ 0.5 <i>l.</i>	2.00
1 dozen clasp knives.....	3.00
5 dozen fire steels @ 2.5 <i>l.</i>	12.50
2 dozen scrapers @ 9 <i>l.</i>	18.00
1 dozen scrapers.....	91.00
2 ¾ lbs. glass beads @ 4 <i>l.</i>	11.00
1 ½ dozen [glass] mirrors @ 4 <i>l.</i>	6.00
6 small boxes for vermilion @ .35 <i>l.</i>	2.10
12 [wooden] trade combs @ .21 <i>l.</i>	2.50
12 [wooden] fine tooth combs @ .5 <i>l.</i>	6.00
4 horn combs with closely spaced teeth @ .75 <i>l.</i>	3.00
12 calumet pipes @ .3 <i>l.</i>	3.60
13 A-B-C spelling books @ 0.35 <i>l.</i>	4.55
3 guns @ 25 <i>l.</i>	75.00
1 long/large gun (<i>grand fusil</i>).....	50.00
Money to buy gunpowder.....	100.00

⁵² Kent, *Detroit*, Appendix 23, pp. 1065-1066 – Reprinted with his permission.

⁵³ Jacques Campeau, son of Étienne Campeau and Catherine Paulo, was baptized 31 May 1677 in Montréal. He married Jeanne Cécile Catin, daughter of Henri Catin and Jeanne Brossard, 1 December 1699 in Montréal. He was a blacksmith and merchant [Jetté, pp. 194-195; *DCB* - http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/campot_jacques_3E.html].

⁵⁴ Pierre Réaume, son of René Réaume and Marie Chevreau, was born 26 July 1691 and baptized 28 July 1691 in Charlesbourg. He married Marie Estève, daughter of Pierre Estève and Marie Madeleine Frappier, circa 1722 [Jetté, p. 970, 971 – states they married in Detroit].

⁵⁵ Jean Chapoton, son of André Chapoton and Anne Lassaigue, was from St-Jean-Baptiste, Bagnols-sur-Céz, Nîmes, Uzès, Languedoc (Gard), France. He married Madeleine Estève, daughter of Pierre Estève and Marie Madeleine Frappier, 16 July 1720 in Detroit. He was a surgeon major and trader [Jetté, p. 225; *DCB* - http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/chapoton_jean_baptiste_3E.html].

3 kegs for the gunpowder @ 1.5 l.....	4.50
300 lbs. ball and 50 lbs. shot @ 7 l.....	245.00
50 lbs. shot @ 0.7 l.....	35.00
4 bags for the shot @ 0.5 l.....	2.00
600 gunflints @ 1.25 l.....	7.25
124 lbs. flour @ .7 l.....	17.50
[canoe] bark paid to Mr. Desonier.....	

25 May 1725 – Obligation:⁵⁶

Was present **Robert Réaume**, *habitant* of the coast of Lachine, at present in this city, who, in the name of and as manager of the affairs of **Jean Baptiste Réaume**⁵⁷, his brother, *voyageur*, at present interpreter for the King at the Post of the Bay of the Sauks [La Bay, or Green Bay], has acknowledged and declared that he has received from *Sieur Charles Nolan [Sieur] de Lamarque*, merchant of this town, who was absent, his clerk *Sieur Charles Benoît* stipulating and assenting for the said *Sieur de Lamarque* and Company, the sum of 4,821 *livres 14 sols 6 deniers* in merchandise and belongings referred to in the invoice which has been delivered to him with the said merchandise and signed by the *Sieur Pothier* for the said *Sieur de Lamarque* and Company, to send to his said brother at the said post of La Baye according to their instructions, having stated that he is content with all of the said supplies referred to in the said invoice. . . . He has promised . . . after the said term has expired, to render and pay the said amount of 4,821 *livres 14 sols 6 deniers* to the said *Sieur de Lamarque* and Company when summoned to this town or to the bearer in this town, in beaver pelts at the prices of the office [of the export monopoly company] and [other] peltries at the prices which the merchants receive for them, as payment for this outfit, in the month of August, of next year [1726] or earlier if the said Jean Baptiste Réaume or his belongings come down before the said time, under the penalty of all expenses, damages, and interests. Under the bond of and for the execution [of these presents,] come down before the said time, under the penalty of all expenses, damages, and interests. Under the bond of and for the execution [of these presents,] he has selected as his [temporary] legal residence [to which writs may be delivered] his residence in the home of *Sieur [Simon] Réaume*, located on St. Paul Street in this town. Thus have they promised, obligated themselves, and waived, etc.

[This agreement] made and drawn up at the said Villemarie in the office of the said notary in the year 1725 on the 25th of May in the afternoon, in the presence of the Sieurs [left blank, but they were Jacques Pierre Paumereau and Ignace Gamelin, living at the said Villemarie, who have signed after the reading was done.

The words scratched out are null and void.

Signed,
Réaume, Charles Benoist, Paumereau, Gamelin, and P. Raimbault

⁵⁶ Kent, *Phantoms of the Fur Trade*, pp. 1314-1315 – Reprinted with his permission.

⁵⁷ Jean Baptiste Réaume, son of René Réaume and Marie Chevreau, was born in Petit-Rivière St-Charles and baptized 24 September 1675 in Québec. He married Symphorose Ouaouagoukoué, a Native American, possibly in present-day Green Bay, Wisconsin [Jetté, pp. 970, 971].

29 June 1729 – Power of Attorney⁵⁸

Before The Undersigned royal notary of the town of Montréal Residing there, And witnesses named at the end, **Jacques le Gardeur, Écuyer, Sieur de St. Pierre**,⁵⁹ an officer Of the troops Of the Detachment of the Marine was Present, Who, Departing for the Upper Country, made and Constituted his special and General attorney **Sieur Charles Nolan La marque**,⁶⁰ *Bourgeois* merchant in The Town to whom He is Giving power both for Him And In his name.

His person will Represent him in Court and Outside both In Claiming and in Defending, To receive all the sums in cash which are or will be Due Hereafter and to Give receipts for them And in the Event of a Refusal of Payment to have The Debtors Constrained by every Lawful and Reasonable Means; to send the Shipments of merchandise which will be necessary for the said Constituent in the said Upper Country; to Receive The Returns from there and to give Receipts for them; to be present upon Receipt Of the furs which will Come down for the said Constituent; to Borrow such an amount as he will Deem suitable And to This End execute And sign all obligations / And other deeds appertaining thereto: The said Constituent binds himself thereto and hypothecates thereto all his Property, And Generally is doing everything That will be most advantageous for the said Constituent to carry out any seizure And execution of a writ that are appropriate And over all to plead, appeal, Take up residence, to substitute an attorney for all or part Of the Foregoing powers, to Revoke Them And to Substitute Others; Likewise to Receive The salary Of the said Constituent from Monsieur the treasurer General of The marine and to Give a full and Valid Receipt for it;

And Finally If he Judges it Appropriate either to come to terms, Compromise, or concede, either by Means of an arbitrator or otherwise and to this end to cause to be executed And Signed any Compromise, agreement, transaction and other necessary deed; Desiring that These presents be Used by the said attorney for The Business Of These presents be Used by the said attorney for The Business Of the said Constituent that could occur subsequently And that he cannot foresee These presents Remaining In Full force and Vigor Until Revocation By the Latter And without anyone being able to allege / superannuation; Being firm And stable, Even Fully Satisfied, Promising to deem good all that will be done and Managed by The said attorney In Accordance With the Presents under the obligation etc. Executed at the aforesaid Montréal in the house Of the said Sieur La marque in the Year one thousand seven Hundred twenty nine On the twenty seventh of June in the afternoon In the presence Of Sieurs Jean Biron fresnière And Richard Satirnel Witnesses who Signed with The said Constituent And notary after the Reading done according to the Ordinance.

Four words crossed out and nullified.

[Signed]

Legardeur St. Pierre

⁵⁸ Joseph L. Peyser, (translator and editor), *Jacques Legardeur de Saint-Pierre, Officer, Gentleman, Entrepreneur* (East Lansing, Michigan and Mackinac Island, Michigan: Michigan State University Press and Mackinac State Historic Parks, 1996), pp. 16-17. Hereafter, Legardeur. I have retained the strange capitalization as found in the translation, however I have not translated certain French terms such as *écuyer* or other terms that are part of a name. I have followed this same practice for any other contracts translated by Peyser.

⁵⁹ Jacques Legardeur, *sieur* de Saint-Pierre, son of Jean Paul Legardeur, *sieur* de Saint-Pierre and Marie Joséphe LeNeuf, was born 18 October 1701 in Repentigny and baptized 24 October 1701 in Montréal. He married Marie Joséphe Guillemin, daughter of Charles Guillemin and Françoise Lemaître, 27 October 1738 in Québec [Jetté, p. 697; *DCB* - http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/legardeur_de_saint_pierre_jacques_3E.html].

⁶⁰ Charles Henri Nolan, *sieur* de Lamarque, son of Jean Nolan and Marie Anne Lamarque, was born and baptized 25 November 1694 in Montréal. He married Marie Anne Legardeur de Saint Pierre, daughter of Jean Paul Legardeur and Marie Anne LeNeuf, 28 January 1727 in Montréal [Jetté, p. 851; *DCB* - http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/nolan_lamarque_charles_3E.html].

June 1732 – Trade Invoice⁶⁵

Timothy J. Kent noted that in 1729 **Antoine Cuillerier**⁶⁶ wrote to his wife **Angelique Girard**. He urged his wife to visit him in Detroit, or instead to send via a friend of theirs certain articles which he needed as supplemental trade goods. The items he specifically requested included the following:

fine guns
fine [priming] gunpowder
lead balls
gunflints

woolen fabric from Mazamet
woolen fabrics, but no capote fabric
trade linen in large quantities
cotton fabric
stockings
white blankets

axes
alum
glass window panes

brandy
wine
salt

Kent notes that **Jean Alexis Lemoine dit Monière** supplied **Antoine Cuillerier** with the items listed below. On 13 September 1734 he also supplied **Antoine Cuillerier** with 1,273.75 *livres* worth of merchandise for another voyage that Cuillerier made to Detroit.

June 9, 1732

	<i>livres</i>
.....	
2 pieces of melton fabric containing together 63 yds. @ 4.25 l.....	267.75
32 yds. violet melton fabric @ 4.25 l.....	136.00
2 pieces of violet fabric from Dorgne containing together 52 ¾ yds. @ 3 l.....	158.25
5 ½ yds. Cadis fabric @ 5 l.....	27.50
2 yds. flannel @ 3.5 l.....	7.00
2 pieces blue woolen fabric containing together 63 yds. @ 9 l.....	324.00
20 yds. linen from Morlaix @ 2 l.....	40.00
23 ½ yds. from Lyon in 2 ft. 7 in. width @ 1.5 l.....	35.25
8 yds. brin [hempen] linen @ 1.75 l.....	14.00
21 ½ yds. cotton fabric in 4 ft. 10 in. width @ 4.5 l.....	95.63
1 1/3 yds. cotton fabric in 4 ft. 10 in. width @ 5.1.....	6.67
1 piece binding tape or gartering [with 1 lb. of pepper].....	17.50

⁶⁵ Kent, *Detroit*, Appendices 24 and 26, pp. 1067, 1069-1071.

⁶⁶ Antoine Cuillerier, son of Jean Cuillerier and Marie Catherine Trottier, was born and baptized 22 March 1697 in Montréal. He married Angélique Girard, daughter of Léon Girard and Marie Clémence Beaune, 3 June 1722 in Lachine [Jetté, p. 295].

1 piece of silk braid @ 10 l.....	10.00
1 mark [weight] of false silver braid @ 9 l. per mark.....	9.00
½ mark [weight] of fine narrow false silver braid @ 9 l. per mark	4.50
500 large needles @ 1.25 per hundred.....	6.25
2 dozen large packing needles @ 4 l.....	8.00
2 lbs. thread from Poitou @ 3 l.....	6.00
1 lb. thread from Rennes	4.00
24 chemises for women @ 3.25 l.....	78.00
12 shirts for the first age @ 1.5 l.....	18.00
4 hooded coats of 3 ½ yd. size @ 12.5 l.	50.00
3 hooded coats of 3 yd. size @ 10.5 l.	31.50
4 hooded coats of 1 yds. size @ 3.75 l.....	15.00
4 pairs of pump-style shoes @ 4.5 l.	18.00
40 2-point blankets @ 8.5 l.....	340.00
10 cradle blankets @ 5 l.....	50.00
1 round kettle weighing 8 ½ lbs.....	29.75
20 ½ lbs. kettles @ 3 l. per lb.	88.52
9 axes @ 2.5 l.....	22.50
12 biscayan axes @ 2 l.....	24.00
12 tomahawks @ 1.5 l.....	18.00
2 dozen butcher knives @ 4.5 l.....	9.00
8 dozen long knives @ 2.5 l.....	20.00
2 dozen medium knives @ 2 l.....	4.00
6 dozen small knives @ 1.5 l.	9.00
3 dozen small yellow knives @ 1.25 l.	3.75
3 crooked knives @ 1 l. apiece	3.00
1 gross of awls	5.00
3 dozen fire steels from Holland @ 3 l.	9.00
6 scrapers @ 0.75 l.....	4.50
1 lb. 2 oz. brass wire @ 5 l.....	5.63
1 lb. brass wire @ 5 l.	5.00
1 ¾ lbs. untwisted wire @ 1.5 l.	2.53
500 flooring nails @ 2 l.	10.00
100 roofing nails @ 3.5 l.	3.50
1200 shingle/lath nails @ 0.50 l.....	6.00
2 lbs. 3 oz. very small glass beads @ 2.25 l.....	4.90
8 pearl necklaces @ .75 l.	6.00
4 pearl necklaces @ 1 l.	4.00
6 dressing-table mirrors painted red @ 2 l.....	12.00
4 lbs. vermilion @ 10 l.....	40.00
1 dozen large [wooden] combs @ 3 l.....	3.00
1 dozen small [wooden] combs @ 1.5 l.....	1.50
12 ¾ lbs. soap @ 1 l.....	12.75
2 dozen calumet pipes @ 2 l.	4.00
24 decks of playing cards @ 0.25 l.....	6.00
6 squires of paper large size @ 1 l.	6.00
2 fine guns @ 34 l.....	68.00
2 guns with anchor mark [on the lockplate] @ 20 l.....	40.00

1 crate for the guns.....	3.00
200 lbs. gunpowder @ 1.5 l.	300.00
4 kegs for the gunpowder @ 1.5 l.	6.00
250 lbs. lead balls, 100 lbs. large shot, 50 lbs. pigeon shot @ 0.5 l.....	200.00
8 bags [for the lead] @ 0.5 l.....	4.00
800 gunflints @ .075 l.....	6.00
2 dozen gun worms @ 1.5 l.	3.00
50 lbs. tobacco paid to Mr. Desrivières	26.00
22 ½ lbs. tobacco @ 0.5 l.....	11.25
61 lbs. pork @ 0.4 ll.....	24.40
150 lbs. biscuit paid to Couvret @ 10 l.....	15.00
100 lbs. biscuit paid to Mme. Moisan @ 10 l.	10.00
105 lbs. flour paid to Mme. Moisan.....	22.50
1 bushel of salt	4.00
1 keg for the salt @ 1.5 l.....	1.50
1 lb. pepper [with 1 piece of binding tape]	17.50
64 ½ half-gallons of red wine @ 1.5 l.....	96.75
4 kegs [for the wine] @ 1.5 l.	6.00
32 ½ half-gallons of brandy @ 2 l.	64.00
2 kegs [for the brandy] @ 1.5 l.	3.00
8 half-gallons of brandy @ 2 l.	16.00
1 keg [for the brandy] @ 1.5 l.....	1.50
3 half-gallons of brandy @ 2 l.	6.00
1 keg [for the brandy] @ 1.5 l.....	1.50
paid to Mon. Hurtebise for one-half of a canoe	25.00
2 lbs. [canoe] gum.....	[-]
6 lbs. cod line @ 1.5 l.	9.00
2 bark strips for shelter	6.00
1 crate @ 1.5 l.....	1.50
[which held 12 biscay axes, 6 scrapers, 144 awls, 21 dozen knives, 24 gunworms, 36 fire steels, 24 packing needles, 2 lbs. 3 oz. glass beads, and 1 ¼ lbs. brass wire]	
1 lock [for the crate?].....	4.00
paid to Mon. Cuillerier in currency.....	3.00
paid to Mon. Cuillerier in card money, for his native employee	12.00
paid, per his instruction, to Derocher, tailor	4.00
paid to Laloette for a trip to Lachine.....	10.00
provided to Rochon, his employee, 1 ½ yds. cotton fabric and 2 yds. flannel [listed above in the fabric items]	

26 March 1743 – Regulations for Leasing the Ouiatanon Post:⁶⁷

Today 26 March, one thousand Seven Hundred forty three, We, Charles, *Marquis* de Beauharnois, Commander of The Royal and Military order of St. Louis, Vice Admiral of the armies of His Majesty, and His Governor and His Lieutenant General in all New France and the Province of Louisiana; and Gilles Hocquart, Knight and Councillor on His Council, Intendant of Justice, Civil Administration, and finance in New France, in accordance with the publications and notices that we had caused to be

⁶⁷ Peyser, *Legardeur*, pp. 63-66. The Ouiatanon Post was located near present-day West Lafayette, Indiana.

promulgated in the necessary and customary locations stating that on this day the auctioning of the Ouyatanon Posts and its dependant Locations would be carried out and on the said day in the presence of *Monsieur* Varin, Commissary and Controller of the Marine in this country, [We] would carry out the said auction with the Responsibilities, Clauses and Conditions below.

To Wit, First

The successful bidder by Himself or through His Employees [*Engagés*] will have the Exclusive Trade with the Indians and French Settled in Area of the aforesaid Post.

Second

The successful bidder will be able to send into the aforesaid Post the Quantity of Canoes, Merchandise and Employees that he will Deem Necessary to Profit from the Trade, with the Obligation of taking in each canoe a *Congé* from the General, in the customary Manner, visaed by the Intendant, to which *Congé* will be attached a Roster of the aforesaid Employees, which will be approved by the General. The *Congés* and Rosters will Then Be Registered in the normal way, / in the Montréal Jurisdiction Office.

3

The leaseholder [*fermier*] will be able to load into his Canoes only the quantity of four *pots* of Brandy for The use of each employee during the Course of the trip, and he Will additionally be permitted to Send each year, by His Canoes, thirty Kegs of sixteen *pots*, for the post's use.

4

The Replaced leaseholder will not be able to conduct any furtrading once the New leaseholder has arrived at the post, and The former will be obliged to Remove and Send away The Goods that He has left to outside the Limits of the Post, and to draw up an Inventory of the aforesaid Goods, as well as the Bundles that Will be made of them in order for them to be taken to the Strait of Lake Erie [Detroit] where private parties who have *congés* Will be permitted to buy them, all of this with the Knowledge of the detroit Commandant and Not otherwise. If the New leaseholder prefers to come to a mutual agreement, Only then will The former leaseholder be permitted to Leave an Employee in the post to collect on the credit he extended, which Employee Will be fed by the New leaseholder and will not be able Under any pretext whatever to engage in any Trade; or the former leaseholder Will come to an agreement with New one as to the credit extended, or the new leaseholder will recover it at His expense, and in this Case Half of the Credit will belong to the aforesaid New leaseholder who will have the alternative or the choice and Will be bound to remit The other Half of the aforesaid credit at the disposal of the Former leaseholder outside [the post's limits]. /

5

The officer who will be assigned to Command The aforesaid Post will not be able to engage in any Trade under any pretext whatever.

6

The leaseholder Will be bound to lodge and provide Heat for The officer and to provide him with The presents that the *Commandant* will deem appropriate to give to the post's Indian nations in order to Maintain them in dispositions Suitable for the French, besides those that the leaseholder will Judge Necessary to be given to Them to Encourage them to trade or to Hunt, or to dissuade them from taking

their furs to Foreigners. In all these Cases the presents of furs that the Indians will give to The officer will go to the leaseholder.

7

The officer in Command Will be obliged to Feed Himself at His own expense; to this End, the leaseholder Will be obliged to take on His canoes the quantity of fifteen hundred [pounds of] weight in food, supplies, and goods suitable for the purchase of the food needed for His Subsistence On the Premises, and in addition, His person, His valise, [] and travel utensils, both for the trip out and for the return.

eighth

If His Majesty is obliged to make some Exceptional expenditures in this post, Either on The occasion of warfare, or the Indians Changing Villages, The leaseholder Will be bound to furnish the Commandant with the goods needed for suitable presents, which Goods will be taken from the leaseholder at 30 percent above the price of The Material.

Ninth

The post's leaseholder Will be bound to furnish an Interpreter to the officer in Command.

Tenth

With these conditions, The successful bidder will pay The auction price to the general, As has been the Practice, on the first of next October.

Certified as a True Copy and signed Beauharnois

8 June 1745 – Engagement:⁶⁸

Timothy J. Kent noted that Jean Baptiste Adhémar, the notary had completed in advance the basic or generic terms of the engagement and left blank various parts of the contract. On 8 June 1745, he inserted the specific details of the engagement, such as the name of the voyageur, his wages, his employers, the final destination for the journey, the witnesses, and the date and place where the contract was recorded. This technique predated by several decades the use of pre-printed forms.

Before the undersigned royal notaries of the royal [governmental] jurisdiction of Montréal, residing there, was present **Simon Réaume**,⁶⁹ *voyageur* living on Île Perrot, who has voluntarily engaged himself to *Messieurs* [**Louis Césaire Dagneau, sieur**] **De Quindre**⁷⁰ and [**Claude**] **Marin [sieur] de Laperrière**,⁷¹

⁶⁸ Kent, *Phantoms of the French Fur Trade*, pp. 1841-1842 – reprinted with his permission.

⁶⁹ Simon Réaume, son of Robert Réaume and Élisabeth Brunet, was born and baptized 14 September 1697 in Montréal. He married Charlotte Turpin, daughter of Alexandre Turpin and Mare Charlotte Beauvais and widow of Nicolas Gros, 10 September 1722 and Lachine [Jetté, pp. 971 – Réaume; 1101 – Turpin]. He married Angélique Hunault, daughter of Toussaint Hunault and Isabelle Potier and widow of Paul Massiac, 3 November 1767 in Lachine [*LaFrance*].

⁷⁰ Louis Césaire Dagneau, *sieur* Dequindre, son of Michel Dagneau, *sieur* de Douville, and Marie Lamy, was baptized 8 October 1704 in Sorel. He married Françoise Marie Anne Picoté de Belestre, daughter of François Marie Picoté, *sieur* de Belestre, and Marie Catherine Trottier, 4 December 1736 in Montréal [Jetté, pp. 298 – Dagneau, 915 – Picoté; *DCB* - http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/dagneau_douville_de_quindre_louis_cesaire_3E.html].

⁷¹ Claude Marin, son of Charles or César Marin, *sieur* de LaMassuère and LaMargue, and Louise Lamy, was born 27 October 1705 and baptized the following day in Montréal. He married Marie Madeleine Coulon de Villiers,

represented by *Sieur* Jacques Hervieux, who was present and assenting for them. At the first request that will be made of him during the present year, he will depart from this town to go to Michilimackinac, occupying the bow of a canoe both in going up and in coming down, and to also come down during the present year during the time when the *voyageurs* ordinarily come down from the said place. He will assist in going up and in coming down in taking the canoes, merchandise, and peltries of the said *Sieurs*, take care of the said canoes, merchandise, peltries, and other implements of the voyage, obey them or those who will be bringing their canoes, serve them faithfully in working for their profit, avert damage to them and warn them if it comes to his knowledge, and generally do everything which will be commanded of him that it is legal and honest. He will not be permitted to leave the said service, nor carry out any trading for himself without their consent, under the penalties if the ordinances and the loss of his wages. This agreement is also made for and in consideration of the sum of two hundred *livres* as his wages and the salary of the said employee, which will be paid to him upon his return to this town in the following manner. That is, 120 *livres* in currency and the remainder in merchandise held at the store of the said Hervieux, at the current prices. The said employee has acknowledged that he has received against the account of his wages sixteen *livres* nine *sols*, which will be deducted. This have they promised and obligated themselves.

[This agreement] made and drawn up at the said Montréal in the office of [**Jean Baptiste**] Adhémar, of the said notaries, in the year 1745 on the eighth of June in the afternoon. The said Hervieux has signed with the said notaries, and the said employee has declared that he does not know how to write or sign, having been questioned after the reading was done, according to the ordinance.

Signed,
Jacques Hervieux and Adhémar [but not the other notary who was mentioned].

2 July 1747 – Engagement⁷²

[Montréal, July 2, 1747]

In the presence of the undersigned Royal Notaries of this city and Royal Jurisdiction of Montréal, residing at that place, were present **Jean Baptiste [Lebeau]**⁷³ and **René Lebeau**,⁷⁴ father and son, (*voyageurs*) living in this city. They recognized and confessed having contracted and by these presents do contract with *Sieur Jean Baptiste Godefroy*, *écuyer*, living in this city in his house situated on *rue* St. Jean Baptiste, here present. The above named agree that at his first request they will leave this city in a canoe laden with merchandise, will help to conduct it to the post of Detroit on Lake Erie, and be free on arrival at said place. They agree that during the whole journey they will take care of the canoes, merchandise, peltries, provisions, utensils, and they will work for the profit of the said *Sieur*, and avoid any loss or damage to him, and to notify him in any should come to their knowledge, and to obey in everything licit

daughter of Nicolas Antoine Coulon, *sieur* de Villiers, and Angélique Jarret de Verchères, 30 December 1737 in Montréal [Jetté, pp. 282 – Coulon, 772 – Marin; *Lafrance*; DCB - http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio/marin_de_la_perriere_claude_3E.html].

⁷² Ernest J. Lajeunesse, editor, *The Windsor Border Region* (Toronto, Ontario: The Champlain Society for the Government of Ontario, University of Toronto Press, 1960, as reprinted by the Essex County Historical Society, 1972), pp. 48-49. I have retained certain French words which appear in italics.

⁷³ Jean Baptiste Bau or Lebeau, son of René Bau or Lebeau and Madeleine Guertin, was born and baptized 7 August 1705 in Boucherville. He married Catherine Dudevoir, daughter of Claude Dudevoir and Marie Angélique Ducharme, 3 February 1728 in Montréal [Jetté, pp. 55, 56].

⁷⁴ René François Bau or Lebeau, son of Jean Baptiste Bau or Lebeau and Catherine Dudevoir, was born and baptized 3 April 1730 in Montréal. He married Marguerite Morel *dite* LaDurantaye, daughter of Michel Morel *dit* LaDurantaye and Marguerite Hubert, 14 June 1752 in Boucherville [Jetté, pp. 55, 56; *Lafrance*].

and honest that will be commanded, and finally to do everything that can and should be done by good and faithful *voyageurs*, without being permitted to quit the service under the penalties of the service and also of losing their wages. This agreement is made for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred and fifty *livres*, i.e., one hundred livres to the said Lebeau, *père*, and fifty livres, to the said Lebeau, *fil*s, all in money current in this country – which the said *Sieur* Godefroy promises and agrees to give and pay to the said *engagés* for their wages and salaries as soon as the said *engagés* arrive in that place. (Word illegible) of all expenses, damages, and interest. All agree to this contract made at Montréal in the office of the said undersigned notaries in the year seventeen hundred and forty-seven, the second day of July in the afternoon, and all have signed with the exception of the above-mentioned *voyageurs*, who have declared that they could not write or sign their names. The contract was read to them according to the ordinance.

Signed: Godefroy
Adhémar [Jean Baptiste]
Fr. Simonnet, *notaire* royal