

of one League of Land along the Bank of the River Saint Lawrence, by one league and a half in depth; and on the 16th April 1647, the same Company of New France had likewise granted to the said Robert Giffard the Seigniorship of St. Gabriel, beginning at the same place as the Grant of Beauport adjacent thereto, as nearly as may be, having a depth of ten leagues, towards the north west. Your Petitioners further represent, that Mr. Giffard experienced no difficulty in taking possession of his Seigniorship of Beauport, but that the Land on either side of that Seigniorship, the Hill of Beaupré on the north-east, and the Seigniorship of Notre Dames des Anges on the south-west, having been conceded before the 16th April 1647, it was impossible to fill up the Concession of the Fief St. Gabriel at the place where Beauport is, unless by means of the Land in the rear of that prior Grant, which would have been according to the Deed of Grant, although coinciding but little with the interests of Mr. Giffard, who, without attending to the tenor of the Deed, removed the Seigniorship of St. Gabriel to a totally different place, gave the same a depth of one league and a half, without any determinate breadth, the same, doubtless being conceded as a remnant, assumed the possession of half a league of land in front, by ten leagues in depth, which remained between the Seigniorships of Sillery and that of L'Épinay, and which he gave to the Religious Ladies of the Hôtel Dieu, to whom Mr. De Lauzon, then Governor, gave a Grant thereof on the 20th April 1652, under the name of the Fief St. Ignace, bounded on one side by the Land conceded on the River St. Charles, to Guillaume Couillard, (Fief L'Épinay) and on the other side by the Division Line of the Lands recently granted to the Indians. Thus according to the latter Grant, the Fief St. Ignace was bounded in front by the River St. Charles, on the north-east by the Fief L'Épinay, and on the south-west by the Seigniorship of Sillery, belonging to the Indians. Mr. Giffard, however, carried matters so far as to include within his Seigniorship of St. Gabriel, the greater part of the Seigniorship of Sillery, of which he left the Indians no more than one league and a half in depth, being the interval between the River St. Lawrence and St. Charles. Thus from this moment, the Fief St. Ignace, bounded in front by the River St. Charles, was no longer bounded on the south-west by the Lands of the Indians, since they were thus divested of them, but by the Lands of which Mr. Giffard assumed the possession, and which he denominated the Seigniorship of St. Gabriel; and this manifest encroachment was made without any opposition on the part of the Jesuits, who were not thereby to be losers. In fact, whatever Mr. Giffard and his Spouse had taken from the Seigniorship of Sillery, was given to the Reverend Fathers the Jesuits, as the reward of their good and agreeable services, by Deed of Gift, executed before Mr. Paul Vachon, Notary, on the 2nd November 1667, and they possessed the same from that time to the date of the dissolution of their Order. There still remained to the Indians one league in front, by one league and a half in depth, and the Jesuits were determined to have the whole Seigniorship of Sillery, from which the Seigniorship of St. Gabriel had been dismembered. To attain that end, they availed themselves of their