

period downwards until the Conquest of Canada, held the said *league and one half* in front by *ten* in depth, from which latter period until the extinction of their Order in Canada, by the decease of its last surviving Member, they continued to possess the same, not as Proprietors perhaps, but as Tenants at will, subject to the pleasure of the Crown to have disposed of them thereof at any moment that it might have been deemed right to assume the said Estate into the immediate possession of His Majesty. The whole of the tract therefore, originally granted to Mr. Giffard, that is to say, the two leagues in front by ten in depth, with the *exception* of the *half league* given in 1647 to the Ladies of the Hotel-Dieu, is at this day the property of His Majesty, and is now administered in common with the remainder of the Estates heretofore belonging to the late Order of Jesuits, by His Commissioners in this Province.

Having thus disposed of the Seigniorship of St. Gabriel, which by the ratification of Mr. de Lauzon, of the half league in favor of the Ladies of the Hotel-Dieu, it would appear is bounded in *front* by the *River St. Charles*; and having shewn that the Lorette Indians can have no possible claim upon it, I shall now proceed to the examination of the Title Deeds, under which they still assert, that they are entitled to have a tract of *one league* in front by *two leagues and a half* in depth within the Seigniorship of St. Gabriel, including, I presume, the spot upon which their actual habitations are erected, and which their Surveyor, Mr. Ecuyer, by his figurative plan drawn in this present month of October has designated thereon by a yellow shade.

The first of these, namely the Concession of the 13th March 1651, and upon which they entirely found their claim, is *not* as they *alledge* a title to any part of the Seigniorship of St. Gabriel, on the contrary, St. Gabriel was no longer the property of the Company of New France, they having as has been just shewn, conceded it *four* years before to Robert Giffard, but is a Deed of Concession made by the same Company to the Indians newly converted to the Christian faith, at a place called in their language "*Kamaskda d'Angachit*," commonly called by the French Inhabitants Sillery or "*L'ance de St. Joseph*;" where the Jesuits had built a Chapel for the Indians, and administered the Sacrament to such of them as had been baptized: the tract is thus described, "*l'étendue d'une lieue de terre depuis le Cap qui termine L'ance St. Joseph, en montant sur le grand Fleuve St. Laurent sur quatre lieues de profondeur*," the whole under the guidance of the Jesuits who had converted them, and their Successors; this