

No one knew better than the French Court that this hardly extorted concession was a mere mockery. There being no regular communication with Canada during the winter months, no further Canadian claims were likely to be registered until some time after navigation opened, and before that the new date would have expired.

In a despatch from Halifax to Murray in December 1763, there are given the requirements of the French Court as to the form of the returns of paper to be made from each of the districts of Quebec, Three Rivers, and Montreal. These exact a complete statement, from both English and French holders of the Canadian paper, giving particulars as to the nominal value, date of issue of each bill, the means by which it was obtained, and, in the case of those disposed of, by whom they were sold, to whom, and at what price.

The Canadian authorities at once bestirred themselves to secure the registration of the outstanding paper, according to the forms prescribed by the French Government. But not before August 20th 1764 was Murray able to send what he believed to be a correct account of the bills held in Canada. His summary of the returns is as follows :

	Exchanges		Ordonnances		Cards		Certificat	
Govt of Quebec—	livres	s. d.	livres	s. d.	livres	s. d.	livres	s. d.
(a) In Canada....	683,413	18 3	4,614,167	16 0	318,569	17 6	122,785	18 10
(b) In Europe....	766,359	9 0	702,325	5 0	33,259	0 0
Montreal.....	667,650	6 6	6,548,869	10 0	220,479	15 0	543,298	16 10
Three Rivers....	78,743	5 0	1,297,579	15 0	70,755	16 6	114,252	2 5

In addition to the methods adopted for shutting out the greater part of the Canadian and English claims, the French Court had devised other measures which would as far as possible render those duly registered of little value. This scheme was embodied in an arret of the King's Council of State of 29th June 1764, the chief features of which are here summarized :

The King first expresses his willingness to liquidate the debts contracted in Canada, and which exist in the shape of both money bills and bills of exchange. But he points out that, having investigated the administration of affairs in Canada, he finds the most positive proof of excessive expenditure and extensive frauds connected with his service in that country. As a consequence of its excessive issue the paper