

of the population of Old France, which is so rich in men and women, that foreign kingdoms and their colonies are being peopled with them from day to day.

Would it not be better that the King should keep his subjects for himself, by causing them to pass over into New France, and that the French name should become equally renowned in both worlds, in America and in Europe.

I should have reason to fear that this work would not be well received by those who look for graces of style in the use of our language, if I did not remember that having had the honour, last year, to speak to His Majesty, and to answer several questions which he put to me respecting New France, my simple and artless answers were so far from seeming to be distasteful to him, that, on the contrary, he had the goodness to express gratification with them.

I have thought, my Lord, that you would not have less kindness towards me, and that, accepting this little present, which I offer to you with all my heart, you will give your patronage to it, and permit me to subscribe myself,

My Lord,

Your very humble and very obedient servant,

PIERRE BOUCHER.

From the town of Three Rivers, in New France, the  
8th of October, 1663.