

king, over the footing of current merchandizes in Canada. But the greatest evil is, that they send goods which are not proper for the Indian trade, such as large mirrors mounted upon morocco, silk stuffs, and remnants of various other fabrics, handkerchiefs, hose, and in short all the remnants of the shops. The intendant who was attached to the marine, dared not refuse all these articles, and sent them in form to separate stores, where they spoiled, or were stolen, or were turned to other uses. They made reports of consumption at the end of a certain time, and the money paid for them by the king, went into the pockets of those furnishing them, and all the loss was his. We should add to this, the damages unavoidable in a long transportation, and what would be stolen. The furnishers having thus a great profit upon the losses, while the king sustained them, although the profits upon trade in ordinary times was very great,—or otherwise no private persons would have wished to engage in this trade, especially in the most remote and almost inaccessible regions.

The goods for Indian trade, are guns for hunting, lead, balls, powder, steel for striking fire, gun-flints, gun-screws, knives, hatchets, kettles, beads, men's shirts, cloths of blue and red for blankets and petticoats, vermillion and verdigris, yellow, green and blue ribbons of English weaving, needles, thread, awls, blue, white and red rateen for making moccasins, woolen blankets, of three points and a half, three, two, and one and a half Léon cloth, mirrors framed in wood, hats trimmed fine, and in imitation, with variegated plumes in red, yellow, blue and green, hoods for men and children of fringed rateen, galloons, real and imitation, brandy, tobacco, razors for the head, glass in beads made after the fashion of wampum, black wines, paints, &c.

The Indians give in exchange for these goods, the skins of roebucks, stags, bears, beavers, otters, péicans, squirrels.