

PIERRE RIGAUD MARQUIS DE VAUDREUIL, *Grand Croix de S^t Ordre Royal et Militaire de St. Louis Gouverneur et Lieutenant General pour le Roi en tout la nouvelle France terres et pais de la Louisianne*.—Il est ordonne au S. Langlade Lieutenant reformé des Troupes de la Colonie que nous avons charge de la conduite, des nations Sauvages des pays d'en haut qui s'en retournent dans leurs village de faire le plus de diligence qu'il pourra pour se rendre avec elles a Michillimackinac, de vieller a ce qu'elles ne fassent aucun vol ni aucune insulte aux canoes des voyageurs qu'elles pourroient rencontrer dans leur route de les entretenir toujours dans leur attachement a la nation française en leur faisant sentir que si nous avons le malheur d'être pris par l'ennemi, la Colonie ne pourra demourer tout au plus que quelques mois en son pouvoir attendre que si la paix n'est pas faite actuellement elle est vraisemblablement sur le point de l'être.

Nous prevenons le Sr. Langlade, qu'il passe par nos ordres deux compagnies de deserteurs des Troupes Anglaise par la voye des pays d'en haut pour se rendre a la Louisianne, les quelles sont commandees par deux Sergents dont l'un Irlandaise & l'autre Allemand, tous deux fort entendu et fort capable de faire observer la discipline parmi leur troupe, le de Sr. Langlade aura par consequence attention ses Sauvages n'engendrent aucune querelles avec ces deserteurs et ne leur fassent aucun vol ni insulte tant qu'il seront a leur portee, il leur procurera en outre es facilites dont ils pourront avoir besoin le long de la route et qui pourront deprendre de lui, il tiendra aussi la main a ce que les Canadiens destines a mener ces deserteurs ne les abandonnent pas.

Fait a Montreal, le 3 7br, 1760.

VAUDREUIL.

(2.) A MONTREAL, LE 9 7BRE, 1760.

Je vous apprend, Monsieur, que J'ai ete dans la necessite de capituler hier avec l'arme du General L'Amerst.

Cette Ville est comme vous scaurez sans Deffence, nos troupes etoient considerablement Diminuees, nos moyens et nos ressources totalement epuisees.

Nous étions entourés par trois armées qui revenues, formant 20080 mil hommes.

Le General Amerst étoit du 6 de ce mois à la vue des murs de cette Ville.

La General Muray apportée d'un de nos faubourgs et l'arme du lac Champlain étoit à la prairie et à Longueille.

Dans ces circonstances ne pouvant rien espérer Des Efforts ni mesme de sacrifier des Troupes. J'ai pris sagement le parti de capituler avec le General Amerst à des conditions très avantageuses pour les colons et particulièrement pour les habitans de Michilimakinac.

En effect, il conserve le libre Exercice de leur Religion, ils sont maintenant, dans la possession de leurs biens, meubles, immeubles, et de leurs peultries, Ils ont aussi le commerce libre, tous comme des propres sujets du Roi de la grande Bretagne.

Les mesme conditions sont accordées aux Militaires, Ils peuvent commettre des procureurs pour agir en leurs absence, de leurs droits, eux et tous les Citoyens en general peuvent vendre aux Anglois ou aux français leurs biens, en faire passer le produits en france ou l'emporter avec eux s'il le juge appropos de sy retirer à la paix.

Ils conserveront leurs naigres et panis mais Ils sont obligés de rendre ceux qui ont été pris aux Anglois.

Le general Anglois a déclaré que les Canadiens devoient sujets de sa Majeste Britanique et par cette raison le peuple n'a pas été conserve dans la coutume De paris.

À l'égard des troupes Ils leurs a été imposée la condition de ne pas servir pendant la present guerre, et de mettre Bas les armes aux devant être renvoyé tous en france.

Vous ferez donc, Monsieur, assembler tous les officiers et les soldats qui sont dans votre poste, vous leurs ferez mettre bas les armes, et vous vous rendrez avec eux à tel port de mer que les jugera apropos pour de la passer en france.

Les citoyens et habitans de Michilimakinac seront con-

sequemment sous le commandement de l'officier que le general Aumerai aura destine pour ce poste.

Vous ferez passer une Copie de ma lettre a St. Joseph et dans ces postes des Environs, suppose qu'il y reste quelque soldats, afin qu'eux et ces habitans sy conforment.

Je compte avoir le plaisir de vous voir en France avec tous vos Messieurs.

J'ai l'honneur d'etre tres sincerement, Monsieur, votre tres humble et tres obeissant serviteur.

Signe en la minute des presentes. VAUDREUIL

(3.) The first civil appointments under the authority of the United States, within the limits of this State, were made by Gov. Cass, of Michigan, as follows :

For Brown county, Oct. 27, 1818, Matthew Irwin, Chief Justice, Commissioner and Judge of Probate; Charles Beaune, Associate Justice and Justice of the Peace; John Bowyer, Commissioner; Robert Irwin, Jr., Clerk; George Johnston, Sheriff.

For Crawford County, same date: Nicholas Boivin, George W. Johnston, Justices of the Peace.

May 19, 1819: John W. Johnson, Chief Justice, Nicholas Boivin and Francis Bouthillier, Associate Justices; Wilfred Owens, Judge of Probate; Thomas McNair, Sheriff; John L. Findley, Clerk; Hyacinth St. Cyr and Oliver Sharrier, Supervisors of Roads.

The first court held in Brown county, and of which any record is preserved, was a special session of the County Court, July 12, 1824—Jacques Porlier, Chief Justice; John Lawe, Henry B. Brevoort, Associates.

The first term of the United States Circuit Court for Brown county, was held Oct. 4, 1824—James D. Doty, Judge, at which term Henry S. Baird was admitted an attorney.

In the first decade after the institution of civil government, the population of the two counties of Brown and Crawford, was not materially increased by immigration, the estimated number in 1825 being from 700 to 750.—(Report of Com. of Council)

Langlade Papers, 1737-1800

The stranger visiting the ancient settlement of Green Bay as late as 1827, would have found it in very nearly its primitive condition. No dwellings, save one or two, of modern structure, no vehicles similar to those found elsewhere, and, in fact, no highways in proper condition of improvement for their use.

About a half mile above the fort, which was near the mouth of Fox River, was the usual landing from vessels, where were the remains of the old Langlade and Grignon manseions—on one side the ruins of a grist-mill, and on the other several buildings, more or less in a state of decay, scattered along the river bank, at short intervals; the Langlade and Grignon possessions extending, either way, a distance of a mile or more.

After the death of Pierre Grignon, in 1795, his eldest son, Pierre, Jr., became the head of the family, and so continued until his death in 1833; when his brother, Augustin Grignon, assumed a similar position, and managed the large estates which the family had acquired during their long residence at the Bay. His residence was at the Grand Kaukauna, but by his tenants the whole Langlade and Grignon estate was occupied.

In the early spring of 1828, I took up my residence within the limits of the present city of Green Bay. Soon after, having procured a site from my friend, Mr. Augustin Grignon, who was in possession of the premises formerly occupied by his brother Pierre, my office was erected immediately opposite, and within a few feet of an old trading-house then in ruins. In passing the building which had remained unoccupied for several years, the floor of the loft still remaining intact, I discovered a large quantity of rubbish which seemed to have been abandoned to the action of storms of wind and rain, pouring in at will through the open gables.

There were several bushels of old accounts, books, letters and other papers, with dates recurring back a period of nearly one hundred years. Curiosity led me to spend hours in looking them over, as they proved to be an accumulation, during the life time, of Sieur de Langlade, Senior, his son Charles, and son-in-law, Pierre Grignon, Sr., all of whom had been dead many years. The settlement of Green Bay, at the time of my search, consisted of very few families of the old stock, chief of which were those of Laws and the Grignons. It was natural to suppose, that these papers being treated as of no value, others of importance had been preserved by the descendants of Langlade, who were quite numerous, and that these would be of no little consequence in furnishing an historical account of men and events occurring during the first colonization of our State.

Those which were selected bore dates as far back as 1733, and embraced several letters relating to the Indian troubles of the period of 1755-80; and there were also a number written during the Pontiac War. They were taken to my office and kept several years, open to inspection by the curious and, I regret to state, that some were abstracted without my cognizance; it is still more to be regretted, that I did not gather up all, of every description, and deposit them beyond the reach of idle or mischievous intruders.

Grignon's "Recollections," as given in the third volume of the Society's Collections, very interesting and truthful as they are, may be corrected in a few, perhaps unimportant particulars, by the papers now transmitted. These manuscripts, having been faithfully translated from the French originals by my two daughters, may also help to give authenticity to his traditions, which they would not otherwise possess.

M. L. MARTIN.

Langlade Papers

We the undersigned have ceded, and do cede, to Monsieur de Langlade, our father-in-law, all which belongs to us in the estate of the late Daniel Villeneuve, and Domitelle his widow, and wife of the said Sieur Langlade, with so much of the goods possessed and to be possessed. The declarants make no claim to the said estate either for themselves or for their children, on the charge and condition, nevertheless, that the Sieur Langlade pledges himself to support, and maintain as his own, the three last children now unprovided for, issue of the marriage of the said late Daniel Villeneuve, and his widow Domitelle, until the daughter who is to be provided for, shall be married, and the sons obtain positions in the army.

ANTON GUILLORY,
ANNIE VILLENEUVE,
wife of Guillory.

Done at MICHILIMACHINAC, this 28d of July, 1737.
J. L. De La Pierre,
Missionary of the Company of Jesus.

The Marquis de la Jonquiere, Commander of the Royal Military Order of St. Louis, Chief of squadron of the naval armies, Gov-

MONTREAL, 9th. Sept., 1760.

I must inform you, Monsieur, that I was compelled to surrender yesterday to the army of Gen. Amherst. This city is, as you know, defenseless. Our troops were greatly diminished, our means and resources totally exhausted. We were surrounded by three armies, numbering at least 80,000 men. General Amherst was from the sixth of the month within sight of the walls of the city; General Murray within reach of one of our outposts, and the army of Lake Champlain stationed on the prairie and at Longueville.

Under these circumstances, having nothing to hope from any advance, not even by a great sacrifice of our troops, I have deemed it the wiser course of capitulating to General Amherst, under conditions very advantageous to the Colonists, and especially for the inhabitants of Mackinac. In short, the terms preserve to them all the free exercise of their religion, and leaves them in possession of their goods, furniture, real estate and peltries. They have also reserved to them a free commerce, the same as is enjoyed by the proper subjects of the king of Great Britain. The same privileges are also accorded to the military. They are permitted to commission agents to look after their claims during their absence; they, as well as the Canadian citizens, can sell to the English and French their goods, sending the proceeds thereof, either to France, or retain them in their own possession, should they judge it best to return and remain in the Provinces when peace shall be declared. They may retain their negro serfs; but obliged to return any that have been taken from the English.

The English General, having pronounced the Canadians subjects of His Britannic Majesty, the people will for this reason discard the *Coutumes de Paris*.*

With regard to the troops, the condition imposed on them has been, not to serve during the present war, and to lay down their arms, before being sent to France.

The citizens and inhabitants of Michilimackinac will consequently be under the command of the officer that General Amherst will have detailed for this post.

* The laws of France by which they had hitherto been governed. L. C. D.

You will transmit a copy of my letter to St. Joseph, and to the posts of the surrounding country, in order that any soldiers who still remain there, may conform to instructions.

I count on the pleasure of soon meeting you in France, together with all your gentlemen.

I have the honor to be, very sincerely, Monsieur,

Your very humble and very obedient servant,

VAUDREUIL.

MICHELLEMACINAO, April 13th, 1763.

I have this day given permission to Messrs. Langlade, father and son, to live at the post of La Baye,* and do hereby order that no person may interrupt them in their voyage thither, with their wives, children, servants and baggage.

GEO. ETHERINGTON,

Commandant.

L'ABBE CROCHET, 28 June, 1763.†

SIR—I have had the pleasure of receiving four of your letters,

* While Charles de Langlade was married at Mackinaw, in 1754, and was doubtless much there, while not engaged in distant military service, during the French and Indian War of that period, yet it would seem that at the close of that contest, in 1760, he returned to Green Bay. There is no evidence that the French settlement at Green Bay was abandoned during that war—at least, Augustin Grignon, the direct descendant and representative of the Langlade family, and himself born there in 1780, expressed no doubt of its continued occupation to the writer of this note during his visit with him in 1857, while fully discussing every point upon which he could throw light, and noting down his interesting narrative of traditions and recollections.

Judge Martin, who has resided at Green Bay since 1827, never heard from the ancient settlers anything that ever led him to suppose that there was at any time any abandonment of the settlement after the Langlades first settled there; and in this view, Louis B. Porlier, son-in-law of Augustin Grignon, and all his life of sixty-four years a resident of the Green Bay and Fox River Valley region, and his father, thirty-four years before him, fully coincide.

Hon. Wm. Woodbridge, Maj. Henry B. Brevoort, and J. Kearsley, commissioners of the United States for the settlement of land claims in Michigan Territory, in 1820, state that "the settlement at 'La Baye' does not seem to have been discontinued while the French remained masters in Canada," as shown in vol. iv., *Public Lands, Am. State Papers*, p. 851.

L. C. D.

† This letter has no address, and is found on page 852, vol. iv., *Public Lands, American State Papers*. It was unquestionably addressed to Charles Langlade, who, as the *Diary of the Siege of Detroit* shows, was appointed by Capt. Etherington to the command of the Mackinaw Fort, after its capture by the Chippewas, which appointment Maj. Gladwyn confirmed, till further orders.