

GRANT TO CAPTAIN BIRD CONFIRMED

Quebec 15th October 1784

Sir Captain Bird of the King's (or 8th) Regiment having memorialled His Excellency General Haldimand⁴⁶ to confirm a Grant made to Him, by Lieu^t Colonel De Peyster, of a small Lot of Land & House at Detroit (formerly a Black-Smith's Shop) described therein—I am commanded by His Excellency to acquaint You that in consideration of Captain Bird's particular Services at Detroit, & of His having been at some Expense in fitting up the said House, He is pleased to relinquish to Him all Right to it on the part of the Crown, and desires that You will put Him in possession of it accordingly.

I am Sir

Your most obedient and most humble Servant

R Mathews, Sec^y⁴⁷Lieu^t Governor Hay

Appended: Recorded in the Land office at Detroit in Liber E folio 12 &^e by me

Geo. Hoffman Register

Endorsed: Rob^t Mathews Secret^y to the C. in C.—Octb^r 15, 1784 Rec^d 28 January 85 Answered 3 February 85

He was a member of the grand jury which indicted Governor Hull in 1809. Antoine Dequindre, captain of Detroit militia in 1812, who distinguished himself in the Battle of Brownstown, was apparently his eldest son. The elder Dequindre was buried at Detroit, April 5, 1814; Catherine Desrivieres was buried, May 12, 1817. Information adapted from Denissen, *op. cit.*, and *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*.

⁴⁶ Sir Frederick Haldimand, lieutenant general, colonel commandant of the Sixtieth Regiment, governor and commander-in-chief in Canada 1778-84, was a native of Switzerland. He served for some years in the Dutch army, from which on Jan. 4, 1756, he was appointed lieutenant colonel of the Sixty-second or Royal American (afterward the Sixtieth) Regiment. Thereafter his service in America was continuous until November, 1784, when he returned to England. He died in Switzerland, June 5, 1791. His personal and official papers were later presented to the British Museum by his nephew, and a large number of them are printed in *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XIX and XX. See *Dictionary of National Biography*.

⁴⁷ Robert Mathews was commissioned ensign in the Eighth Regiment, Feb. 28, 1761, and captain May 7, 1777. In 1787 he became commandant at Detroit, continuing in this post a little over a year. For several years he served as military secretary to General Haldimand, and a large number of documents written by or pertaining to him are printed in the *Mich. Pio. Colls.*