

COMPLAINT AGAINST SIMON GIRTY

Detroit District of Hess

Complaint on Oath of George Setchelstiel Tanner of s^d Place Agns^t Simon Girty late Indian Interpreter also of s^d Place Aug^t 22^d 1791.

That on Sunday the 21 of August 1791 being on Horse back Near Cap^t La Mothe's⁵¹ on the Kings-highway he was Assaulted by s^d Simon Girty who seized his Horse by the Bridle making Use of Abusive Words & After s^d Complainant had found Means to turn his Horse away & get at some distance said Girty threw too Stones at him the latter of which Struck him in the head & gave him a Wound from which much Blood gushed Out, all which bad treatment he recv^d without having given any provocation prior to his having rec^d the Wound

George Sichelstiel

Sworn before me at Detroit this 22^d Aug^t 1791 John Askin J. P. D. H.

Endorsed: Detroit Aug^t 22^d 1791 Complaint on Oath of Geo. Sitchelstiel Agns^t Simon Girtty

⁵¹ Guillaume Pierre La Mothe was descended from Bruno La Mothe, who married Jane Le Vallois and resided in St. Meixant, in the diocese of Bordeaux, France. Their son, Pierre, born in St. Meixant in 1693, was the founder of the American line of La Mothe. He came to Canada and married at Montreal, Nov. 23, 1715, Mary Magdelene St. Agne dit Hogue, a native of that city. She died in July, 1739, and Pierre married again, on Jan. 21, 1740, Angelica Caron, a native of Lachine, daughter of Vital Caron and Mary Perthuis. Pierre was buried at Soulanges, Nov. 4, 1755. The third son of his union with Angelica Caron was Guillaume Pierre La Mothe, the subject of our present sketch. He was born at Montreal on Jan. 21, 1744. He married Mary Josette Hautrage, daughter of Claude Hautrage and Mary Frances Visger, probably about the year 1787, for between this date and 1793 four children of the couple were born and baptized at Detroit. La Mothe first came to Detroit in September, 1778. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, IX, 473. Governor Hamilton was on the point of launching his campaign against Vincennes and the Illinois country, and La Mothe accompanied him on this as one of his principal lieutenants, and on being captured by Clark was one of those who were consigned to prison at Williamsburg, Va. There a board of inquiry, acting largely on evidence supplied by John Dodge, who was a bitter enemy of Hamilton and La Mothe, voted to retaliate American wrongs upon these two and Philip Dejean. They were therefore ordered to be put in irons and confined in the dungeon of the jail, with its attendant rigors. They were subsequently released, after long confinement, and in 1782 La Mothe was sent back to Detroit. Here he lived until the summer of 1793, when, having secured the appointment of interpreter at Mackinac, he removed thither. On the evacuation of that post by the British in 1796 he retired with the garrison to St. Joseph Island, where he died in 1799. Information adapted from Denissen, *op. cit.*; *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*; and *Ill. Hist. Colls.*, VIII, *passim*.