

Signed, Sealed and delivered in presence of us.

Joseph Griffiths

Henry Bird Jun^r

Gaytree March 28th 1796.

Endorsed: Power of Attorney from Henry Bird Esq^r Captⁿ on Half Pay of the 18th Reg^t Foot To Charles Blake Esq^r Montreal.

My Dear Sir, I did myself the pleasure of writing to you by the last English Mail not knowing a Vessel sail'd so soon from Bristol. Pray make my kindest remembrance to M^{rs} Goddard. I have sent by this Vessel some Bristol Beer and a Dolphin Cheese, and take the liberty to request her acceptance of them flattering myself they will prove good. M^r Oliver of Bristol did not treat me well—for I did not know till I settled with him last Christmas (as our Custom) that it was not sent last Spring. The Muff &c. came safe to hand for my sincere acknowledgements &c. &c. I refer to my Letter by the Mail. I mentioned in that Letter as you was so kind as to offer to interest yourself in my little matters of Possession at Detroit, that I would trouble you with a Power of Attorney, which I now send, the Power will explain itself. I built a House in Detroit. A Macomb rented it for me to Cox³³ the Innkeeper and to M^{rs} Andrews Widow of Cap^t Andrews,³⁴ who was lost on the Lake, and I have received two Years Rent through Macomb of £40 York a Year, but since Macombs failure I have heard no more. I do not wish Doctor to create you and indeed would not presume to engage you in any dispute. Any person going to Detroit may be empower'd by you to enquire and if any rent can be collected as mentioned in my Letter by

³³ Probably Thomas Cox, for whom see *B. H. R.*, I, 171-72.

³⁴ Captain James Andrews was a sailor on the upper lakes who was at Detroit as early as 1773, when he had command of the naval schooner, *General Gage*. At this time Major Henry Bassett, commandant at Detroit, commended him to General Haldimand as a good sea officer and "very much esteemed" here. He also reports having given Andrews permission to "bring up" his family to Detroit in the spring. In 1778 Governor Hamilton commended Andrews to General Carleton in terms of high praise; the same year Colonel Mason Bolton at Niagara characterized him to Haldimand in like terms, and he was appointed to command the naval force on Lake Ontario. Letters of Mrs. Elizabeth Andrews, his widow, to General Haldimand indicate that he died in service prior to July, 1783. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*. A letter from James White of Niagara to Mr. Fraser of Detroit, in 1798, concerning a debt due Mrs. Andrews at Detroit seems to imply that at this date she was living at Niagara. Ms. in B. H. Coll.