

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 *Coutume 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.