

An Incident of Chegoimegon, 1760^{*}

We have been permitted to extract the following from the journal of a gentleman who has seen a large portion of the country to the north and west of this place, and to whose industry our readers have been often indebted for information relating to the portion of country over which he has passed, and to transactions among the numerous tribes, within the limits of this territory, which tend to elucidate their characteristics, and lay open the workings of their untaught minds:

Monecauning (abbreviated for "Monegoinaic-cauning," the Woodpecker Island, in Chippewa language)—which is sometimes called Montreal Island, Cadott's Island, or Middle Island, and is one of "the Apostles" mentioned by Charlevoix. It is situated in Lake Superior, about ninety miles from Fond du Lac, at the extremity of La Pointe, or Point Chegoimegon.

On this island the French government had a fort, long previous to its surrender to the English, in 1763. It was garrisoned by regular soldiers, and was the most northern post at which the French king had troops stationed. It was never re-occupied by the English, who removed everything valuable to the Saut de St. Marie, and demolished the works. It is said to have been strongly fortified, and the remains of the works may yet be seen.

In the autumn of 1760, all of the traders except one, who traded from this post, left it for their wintering grounds. He who remained had with him his wife, who was a lady from Montreal, his child—a small boy, and one servant. During the winter, the servant, probably for the purpose of plunder, killed the trader and his wife; and a few days after their death, murdered the

^{*} This paper was originally published in the *Detroit Gazette*, Aug. 30, 1822. Hon. C. C. Trowbridge, of Detroit, a resident of that place for sixty years, states that Mr. Schoolcraft, without doubt, contributed this sketch to the *Gazette*; that Mr. Schoolcraft, at the time of its publication, was residing at the Sault St. Marie; and Mr. Morrison, who was one of Mr. Astor's most trusted agents at "L'Anse Qui-wy-we-nong," came down to Mackinaw every summer, and thus gave Mr. Schoolcraft the information. L. C. D.