

“Machiquawish took the King’s Medal from the Breast of one of his Band who refused to go and sent it to this Post.

“Addressed to me with two Prisoners of his Nations which he received from the Scious as a mark of Friendship & future alliance.”

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DE PEYSTER TO GENERAL HALDIMAND.<sup>1</sup>

MICHILIMACKINAC 21st Sepr 1778.

SIR,—I did myself the honor to write to your Excellency on the 16<sup>th</sup> Instant by Mr. Charles Reaume when I informed you that I had sent a belt and Speech on the 10<sup>th</sup> Instant to St. Joseph<sup>2</sup> to be forwarded to the Illinois to which dispatch of yesterday received the enclosed answer.

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<sup>1</sup> Sir Frederick Haldimand, K. B., succeeded Carleton as governor of Canada, in 1778, serving until 1784. His correspondence and the miscellaneous official documents accumulated by him during this important period in American history, constitute the Haldimand Collection, now in the British Museum. The papers herewith presented are carefully copied from the copies of the original documents made under the close supervision of Douglas Brymner, government archivist of the Dominion of Canada. General Haldimand was born in Switzerland and secured the lieutenant-colonelcy of the 60th (or Royal American) regiment of the British army, Jan. 4, 1756. He came to America in that year and was allowed the rank of colonel “in America” a year later. In 1756, he was commandant at Philadelphia. In 1760, he was with Major General Amherst in the expedition from Oswego to Montreal. He became a colonel in the army in 1762, and an “American” major general ten years later, in May. In October, 1772, he was promoted to be colonel commandant of the 60th. Jan. 1, 1776, he was commissioned a general “in America.” In 1777, he rose to be a lieutenant general in the army; and the year following succeeded Governor Carleton, as before noted. Jan. 10, 1785, he arrived in London; in October, he prepared to return to Canada and resume his governorship, but the news of his unpopularity had meanwhile reached England and he never again crossed the ocean. In 1791, he died at Yeverden, Switzerland. See Brymner’s *Report on Canadian Archives*, for 1887, pp. vii–xxi, for additional details of his career, based on the latest information. — ED.

<sup>2</sup> Located in what is now Portage township, St. Joseph county, Ind., on the east side of the St. Joseph river, a short distance below the present city of South Bend. It guarded the much-used portage between St. Joseph river and the head-waters of the Kankakee. Opposite the fort, upon the portage trail, was a Pottawattamie village. It was important to keep this portage open, as the most direct gateway between Detroit and the Illinois country; it was, too, a central depot for the fur trade. — ED.