

1759: GRANT OF LA BAYE TO RIGAUD

[Letter from the French minister to Vaudreuil, dated Jan. 26, 1759. MS. in Archives Coloniales. Paris; pressmark, "série B, vol. 109, fol. 24."]

VERSAILLES, January 26, 1759.

MONSIEUR—I had much pleasure in reporting favorably to the King on the services rendered by Monsieur de Rigaud in Canada. His Majesty is so satisfied with them that he has been pleased to concede the post of la Baye for life to him and to Madame de Rigaud. His Majesty has departed in his favor from the rule he has laid down in the colony to farm out the posts and not concede any more to any person. This is a favor the extent whereof you are aware; and I most willingly contributed to it.

You will see, however, by a joint letter to you and Monsieur Bigot that I have not been able to send to Monsieur de Rigaud the patent he needs for the enjoyment of that post, owing to lack of information to be entered in it; but such enjoyment shall not be delayed because His Majesty has authorized you to grant Monsieur de Rigaud such concession, which will be ratified next year on the collated copy you have sent me.

[Letter from Rigaud to the French minister, dated Sept. 13, 1759. Source, same as preceding document, but C 11, vol. 104, fol. 86.]

MONTREAL, September 13, 1759.⁶⁰

I have received the letter you were good enough to write me on the 26th January last. I am very grateful for your kindness in procuring from His Majesty the concession for life of the post of la Baie, for Madame de Rigaud and myself. I feel, Monseigneur, that I am indebted for this favor from the King to the reports you have been pleased to give him respecting my services.

⁶⁰ It is worth noting that this letter from Rigaud, governor of Montreal, was written on the very day of the battle on the Plains of Abraham, that determined the destinies of New France.—ED.