

1763: MACKINAC CAPTURED

[The originals of the first three letters from Capt. George Etherington to Charles Langlade, are in the Wisconsin Historical Library.]

10 June, 1763.

To Monsieur Langlade Fils

SIR—As I am oblig'd to leave this, and have a great confidence in you, I hereby empower you to take upon you the Command of this Post, and I order all the Inhabitants as well those that are within the Fort, as those that may arrive from the different places, to obey you as such, as they shall answer the Contrary at their peril.

You will prevent as much as within your power the savages from Comitting any more outrages against any of his Majestys Subjects that may arrive here in my absence, either French or English.

You will imeadiately collect all the provisions that was taken out of the Kings store since the second Instant, and take it under your charge to be dispos'd of as hereafter may be directed.

You will please advise me from time to time, of what Bataux or Canots may arrive here and when the Vessel arrives, you will send off the Letter to the Captain which I gave you for that purpose, and endeavour to furnish him with a pilot to come up to the mission or arber cros⁴⁷ or where we may at that time be.

GEO: ETHERINGTON Cap^t

1 B R A Regiment late Commandant at Michilimackac

⁴⁷ L'Arbre Croche mission village was founded in 1742 at the instance of the Mackinac members of the tribe; see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xvii, p. 372. They were peaceful Indians, under the influence of their priest, and refused to enter into Pontiac's confederacy. The village has remained a centre for Catholic mission Indians to the present day. Its location was on Little Traverse Bay, near the present town of Harbor Springs, and some fifty miles distant by water, from Mackinac Island.—ED.