

treul under the convoy, I have been at a very great expense here but it was all unavoidable. I don't despair of seeing you this Fall at Detroit & am, in the meantime, Dear Sir, Yours Sincerely,

GEORGE ETHRINGTON

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[Letter from Capt. Daniel Claus<sup>52</sup> to Sir William Johnson, dated Montreal, Aug. 6, 1763. Reprinted from Franklin B. Hough, *Diary of the Siege of Detroit* (Albany, 1860), p. 31.]

Whilst I am writing this my Landlord tells me that Capt. Ethrington and Lient. Lessley passed the Door coming from Missilimak<sup>k</sup> who I heare with all the Traders except one Trasey who was killed by the Enemy Ind<sup>ns</sup> were escorted here by the Ottawas as living near that place. I followed them immediately to the Gov<sup>s</sup>, and there learr<sup>ed</sup> the News of them Parts, which is that a Parcell of Chippeways to the Number of 100 assembled near the Fort as customary in the Beginning of Summer, and diverted themselves playing Football, and Cap<sup>t</sup> Ethrington and Mr. Lessley (not suspecting the least Treachery, having then not heard a Word of Detroit being besieged by the Enemy Indians) stood out of the Fort to see the Indians Play: that on a Signal given by a Yell, they both were seized and bound, and that the same Instant the Centries were tomahawked, likewise Mr. James [Jamet], who was Officer of the Day in the Fort, together with 18 Soldiers killed and taken. Then the Traders were plundered and taken Prisoners; that afterwards themseves were dragged to the Chippe-

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<sup>52</sup> Daniel Claus was a native of Germany (1727), and when about of age came to America, where he encountered Conrad Weiser and accompanied him on an embassy to the Iroquois. His proficiency in Indian languages attracted notice, and he was sent to reside with Sir William Johnson and Hendrick the Mohawk. There he married Sir William's daughter, and became assistant superintendent of Indian affairs, with headquarters in Canada; he was likewise captain in the Royal American regiment. During the American Revolution he was an active Loyalist, and died in Wales (1787).—Ed.