

## Wisconsin Historical Collections [vol. xviii

those Lakes is to find out if it is practicable for Vessels agreeable to my Promise to them at Neagara.

I am etc.

J. B.

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### 1764: ASPECT OF DETROIT

[Description of Detroit by Lieut. Thomas Mante;<sup>s2</sup> reprinted from his *History of the Late War in North America* (London, 1772), pp. 524, 525.]

The business with the Indians being thus happily finished, and peace thereby restored to the English settlements, Colonel Bradstreet began to prepare for his return to Sandusky, to meet the Shawanese and the Delawars, and put the finishing hand to the treaty which he had entered upon with the deputies of these nations on the Lake-Erie, and fixed the 24th of September for his departure: But he first gave such orders for the security and tranquillity of the inhabitants, and the advancement of agriculture and trade, as could not fail, in time, to render this infant colony both happy in itself, and useful to the mother-country. To be convinced of this, we need only take a transient view of this delightful spot, a description of which, we hope, may be agreeable as, on account of its remoteness, the ideas most people entertain of this country, are very much circumscribed. The country called Detroit, is that washed by the strait which forms the communication between the Lakes St. Clair and Erie. The improvements on the eastern banks of this strait, extend north and south, about nine miles; and those on the western banks, about seven. In purity and wholesomeness of air, and richness of soil, it may be said

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<sup>s2</sup>Lieut. Thomas Mante entered the 77th infantry in 1762. He acted as assistant engineer at the siege of Havana, and as major of brigade on Bradstreet's expedition. The book here referred to has unquestioned value for the French and Indian War. Mante was the author, also, of several military works.—Ed.