

I have nothing materially New at this Place. The Indians are mostly gone hunting. Some few of the Missasaugas are here who have just returned from a War expedition to the Westward, but without Success.

I am Sir your most Humble Servant

ROB^T. ROGERS.⁹⁰

*To Lieutenant Langlead at La Baye.*⁹¹

to Tute in *Mich. Pion. and Hist. Colls.*, x, p. 229; *Wis Hist. Colls.*, xii, p. 33, where the name is spelled "Stoote;" as likewise in *N. Y. Colon. Docs.*, vii, p. 992; and Rogers's *Journals*, p. 239 (misspelled Tate). His conduct is said to have discredited the English traders at Prairie du Chien.—Ed.

⁹⁰ For brief sketch of Maj. Robert Rogers see *ante*, p. 223, note 89. Rogers arrived at Mackinac late in August, 1766, upon an appointment as its commandant, secured in England. He was little approved by his American superiors, but at once conciliated the traders, and secured a large stock of goods to be exchanged on his own account. He had a number of agents throughout the Western country. Just what his plans may have been, it is not now possible to say. He was in correspondence with one Capt. Joseph Hopkins, in French employ, and seems to have had some idea of delivering over his post to French or Spanish intriguants. His actions being reported to the authorities by one of his tools, Nathaniel Potter, and by Lieut. Benjamin Roberts, commissary of Indian affairs at the post, with both of whom he had quarrelled, General Gage sent orders to Capt. Frederick Spiesmacher, second in command, to supersede Rogers and place him under arrest. These orders reached Mackinac after the winter season had set in. Rogers was arrested; but in the absence of conveyance to the lower country, he was kept at the post. In January he entered into a desperate plot to gain his freedom and retake his own post; further, with the aid of the Indians, he thought to capture Detroit and Illinois, and plunder all the English traders. A French interpreter, Joseph Ainse, revealed this conspiracy to Spiesmacher, who had Rogers and his servant placed in irons, and sent to Montreal, where they arrived in June, 1768. In the summer of that year, a court-martial acquitted Rogers of the charge of treason, largely for lack of evidence. For documents bearing on this curious affair, see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xii, pp. 27-37; *N. Y. Colon. Docs.*, vii, pp. 988-994, 997-1002; Rogers's *Journals*, Appendix C.; *Mich. Pion. and Hist. Colls.*, x, pp. 224-233; and *Documentary Hist. of N. Y.*, ii, pp. 500-515.

⁹¹ The title of lieutenant, here given to Langlade, may have indicated