

Wisconsin Historical Collections [vol. xviii

I have the Honor to be Sir Your Excellency's most obedient
Humble Servant

JOHN VATTAS

The Interpreter has layed before me & desired me to represent it to you, that Captain Turnbull³⁴ agreed with him for a Dollar & Ration per Day, the Latter he understands is to be struck off, but flatters himself from Your Excellency's known goodness, the dearness of every thing here & his endeavours to prove himself worthy of his office that you will order him a continuance of it.³⁵

[Letter from Capt. John Vattas to Gen. Frederick Haldimand. Source, same as preceding document, but pp. 305, 306.]

MISSILIMACKINAC, July 1st, 1773.

SIR—I did myself the honor to acquaint Your Excellency, in my last that there were many Reports relative to Traders having lost their lives, wintering which I wanted a confirmation of, previous to affirming it for Truth. Hugh Boyle killed at La Rivière des Sauteux [Chippewa River] I by desire of the Traders, had a Court of Enquiry upon, who gave me in their

plain. In 1763 he was invested with the direction of all the military shipping upon the Great Lakes, which he continued to command until 1812, retiring with the title of commodore. He died at Grosse Pointe, near Detroit, in 1815. See statement of his earlier services in *Mich. Pion. and Hist. Colls.*, xx, p. 256.—Ed.

³⁴ Capt. George Turnbull entered the Royal Americans in 1756, with the rank of lieutenant; the next year he was wounded at Lake George. Promoted to a captaincy in 1765, he was in the following year sent to command at Detroit, where he remained for three years. He seems to have gone thence to command at Mackinac, but the period of his authority there is not entirely clear; Vattas, however, speaks of him as his predecessor. The regiment to which he belonged was ordered to the West Indies in 1773, and it is probable that Turnbull was with them. In 1775 he was no longer on the rolls, either having died or retired from the army.—Ed.

³⁵ Doubtless this was Joseph Ainse, for whom see *ante*, p. 309, note 29.—Ed.