

Aird⁵¹ now at Montreal, from what I have heard this same Aird is a very improper Person to be in this Country, however Calvé will tell you the story himself.

The Indians are pretty quiet considering that I have nothing for them. I would have wrote to Sir John Johnson was I not told he was going to England.

I have the Honor to be with great regard Sir Your most obedt. huml. Servt.

DANL. ROBERTSON.

Col. Claus.

[Letter from Capt. Daniel Robertson to General Haldimand. Reprinted from *Mich. Pion. and Hist. Colls.*, xi, p. 442.]

MICHILIMACKINAC 5th Aug. 1784.

SIR—Your Excellency's Letter of the 14th of June last, I had the Honor to receive on the 3d instant, and the Detachment of

Lawrence until 1782, when he was sent (Sept. 20) to relieve Sinclair at Mackinac. His regiment was reduced the following year, but Robertson being appointed lieutenant-governor remained at Mackinac until his death by accident, May 10, 1787. Many romantic legends have attached themselves to his demise, and the reputed place of his drowning on the island is still called "Robertson's Folly." He appears to have been an efficient officer and popular with the Indians.

For Daniel Claus, see *ante*, p. 256, note 52.—Ed.

⁵¹ Calvé had been sent to notify the Mississippi tribes of the formal ratification of peace between Great Britain and the United States; see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xii, p. 687, and *Mich. Pion. and Hist. Colls.*, xx, p. 124.

James Aird was a prominent Scotch trader who arrived at Mackinac as early as 1779. He later had an extensive trade, and achieved large influence with the Western Indians. He removed to Prairie du Chien somewhere about the close of the eighteenth century, and was met by Pike on the latter's Mississippi voyage of 1805; he was by that explorer highly commended. Lewis and Clark met Aird on the Missouri in 1806, as did also Bradbury in 1810. In the War of 1812-15, Aird was pro-British, and an efficient aid to Dickson. Later, he became connected with the American Fur Company, and died at Prairie du Chien Feb. 27, 1819. Consult *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, ix, x, *passim*. Two of Aird's brothers, Robert and George, were likewise traders in the upper country.—Ed.