## 1725-1821] Marriages at Mackinac

the first Demand therefor, to become their common property and the fruits thereof to be enjoyed by them-wishing to add to the rights of his future wife and thereby prove the great affection he has for her, endows her with the sum of one thousand Ecus, to be taken by privilege from the Property they may acquire together, to provide for the Needs to which the Accidents of Life may give rise. The future consorts-not content with the happy Union they are about to contract unless they secure for themselvs harmony, repose, and sweet Comfort until the last moment of their lives-wish and consent unanimously in order to enjoy without trouble the happiness they expect, that their Property be possessed with full and entire enjoyment by the survivor after the demise of either of them, and by these presents they set aside all claims and pretensions that may be set up by their own children, should heaven grant their desires by giving such worthy fruits of their mutual love; unless, however, the survivor should wish to enter into another alliance, in which case the contracting party shall be responsible to the children, the Heirs, for their share in the said Heritage. But if Heaven, deaf to their prayers, refuses them lawful Heirs, the survivor shall dispose of the whole according to his or her will and Good pleasure, without being molested by the relatives of either party. The last wish of the future wife is that the said husband shall at once participate in all her rights. They propose and it is their will to have their consent approved and ratified by a Notary and to have the ceremonies of Marriage supplied them by a priest as soon as they are able to do so.

For thus,—wishing, obliging and acknowledging the promise made.<sup>23</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> The above is more in the nature of a marriage contract, than of a ceremony. It does not appear by whom it was drawn, but probably by some civil officer. For an allusion to this marriage, see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xi, p. 100.

Following this entry were two notices of parish meetings held at Mackinac in 1821, evidently misplaced. We have removed these, and retained them for insertion in proper chronological order.—Ep.