

# Wisconsin Historical Collections [vol. xviii]

## 1750: AFFAIRS AT DETROIT

[Letter from La Jonquière to the French minister, dated Oct. 10, 1750. Source, same as preceding document, but folio 282.]

QUEBEC, October 10, 1750.

MONSEIGNEUR—I have the honor to send you herewith a copy of the instructions I gave Monsieur de Celoron, the commandant at Detroit, by which you will see that I know all the advantages of that post, and that I neglect nothing to make it most flourishing.

The Sieur de Celoron arrived there safely with his convoy. He has not had time to carry out what I ordered him to do by his instructions, nor to send me a very detailed report on Detroit and the conditions of its inhabitants.

He merely writes me that he will set to work to settle the new inhabitants he has taken with him, and will give them every facility in his power to promote their settlement; that, inasmuch as those who were there last year were unable to subsist with their crops, he has continued to supply them with the provisions the King is pleased to allow them until the first of February 1751.

He writes me also that the crop has been fairly abundant, and that grain would have been cheap had not His Majesty been obliged to incur expense for the maintenance of the garrison, of the militia and of the families for which there would not have been enough without the supplies he received from the post of Niagara; that the mills cannot work through lack of water, and that it is expedient to build one on the rouge river.<sup>12</sup> He has suggested to me the name of an individual who would undertake to build it on condition that he be given every facility as regards transport of the necessary mill-stones, and that he have the ownership thereof. Monsieur Bigot with whom I have conferred has agreed with me that it would be more advantageous to have the mill built for the King.

Reverend Father La Richardie was to start with some sav-

---

<sup>12</sup> Rouge River is a small stream in Wayne County, just below Detroit.—ED.