

19TH MARCH, 1764.

JAMES MURRAY, ESQUIRE.—*Vice Admiral, Commissary, &c., in Our Province of Quebec and territories thereon depending.*

GEORGE THE THIRD, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c.

To Our beloved James Murray, Esquire, Our Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over Our Province of Quebec, in America, greeting:

We, confiding very much in your fidelity, care and circumspection in this behalf, do by these presents, which are to continue during Our pleasure only, constitute and depute you, the said James Murray, Esquire, Our Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief aforesaid, Our Vice-Admiral, Commissary, and Deputy in the office of Vice-Admiralty in Our Province of Quebec aforesaid, and territories thereon depending, and in the maritime parts of the same and thereto adjoining whatsoever, with power of taking and receiving all and every the fees, profits, advantages, emoluments, commodities and appurtenances whatsoever due and belonging to the said office of Vice-Admiral, Commissary, and Deputy, in Our said Province of Quebec, and territories depending thereon, and maritime parts of the same and adjoining to them whatsoever, according to the ordinances and statutes of Our High Court of Admiralty in England.

And We do hereby remit and grant unto you, the aforesaid James Murray, Esquire, Our power and authority in and throughout Our Province of Quebec aforesaid, and territories thereof, and maritime parts whatsoever of the same and thereto adjacent, and also throughout all and every the sea-shores, public streams, ports, fresh water rivers, creeks and arms as well of the sea as of the rivers and coasts whatsoever of Our said Province of Quebec, and territories dependent thereon, and maritime parts whatsoever of the same and thereto adjacent, as well within liberties and franchises as without.

[The expression "Our Province of Quebec and territories thereon depending," or "territories depending on the same," or "territories dependent thereon," occurs seven or eight times.]

PROCLAMATION BY GENERAL GAGE TO THE FRENCH SETTLERS IN THE ILLINOIS, 1764.

[Captain Stirling was despatched in 1765 by General Gage to take possession of the posts and settlements of the French in Illinois country, east of the Mississippi. Upon his arrival, St. Ange surrendered Fort Chartres, and retired with the garrison of twenty-one men and a third of the inhabitants of that settlement to St. Louis, where he exercised the duties of commandant by the general consent of the people, till he was superseded by the Spanish Governor, Piernes, in 1770. Upon assuming the government of the country, Captain Stirling published the following proclamation from General Gage, who was at this time the Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in North America]:—

Whereas by the peace concluded at Paris, the tenth day of February, 1763, the country of Illinois has been ceded to His Britannic Majesty, and the taking possession of the said country of the Illinois by the troops of His Majesty, though delayed, has been determined upon: We have found it good to make known to the inhabitants—

That His Majesty grants to the inhabitants of the Illinois the liberty of the Catholic religion, as has already been granted to the subjects in Canada. He has consequently given the most precise and effective orders to the end that his new Roman Catholic subjects of the Illinois may exercise the worship of their religion according to the rites of the Romish Church, in the same manner as in Canada.