

1778.

February 8, Fort Gage.

PAGE

Rocheblave to Carleton (?)—no address given—(in French). Had gone to Vincennes to confer with Abbott, and returned by the Wabash to ascend the Mississippi. The disposition of the Indians. Armed boat from Fort Pitt plundering and taking prisoners. Design to seize Lt.-Governors Abbott and Hamilton, and Rocheblave; intrigues of Congress with inhabitants. Armed parties commanded by an officer from Philadelphia in the country, and Congress corresponding with the Spanish Governor of New Orleans and the Commandant. The design of Congress to seize the lower Mississippi, by the help of the people of Natchez and *Munchac*, and to induce them to furnish warlike stores. The strength of the country as a place of retreat for the chiefs of the revolt. Believes that this is the object, with reasons. The complicity of the Spaniards at New Orleans. Regrets the absence of a small force to protect the country. Suggests the policy of encouraging desertion from the rebels and of granting land to refugees. The ruinous state of the roof of the Fort. Has drawn for his expenses which are necessary, although, deceived by the apparent quietude, he had formerly recommended their discontinuance. Will cease to charge expenses to the King's account, but will pay them at his own risk, trusting that he will not be left the plaything of the neighbours and Indians. Begs to be replaced by some one of English origin. His constant worries. Part of his expenditure has been charged in Lt.-Governor Abbott's account.....

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February 15, Vincennes.

Henry Butler's examination before Rocheblave (in French). Had come from Pennsylvania, and forced to bear arms for the rebels; had left Fort Pitt three months before, and joined the *Sieur Morin*, whom he found hunting on *Belle Rivière*. Hearsay evidence as to movements of Congress, &c

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February 26, Detroit, Mich.

Prices current of food at Detroit, enclosed in Lt.-Governor Hamilton's letter of 25th April.....

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March 17.

Rocheblave to Lt.-Governor Hamilton (in French). Delaware war chief reports rebels making a fort on the River *Chaoüanos*; the Delawares killed four of them and lost a chief. Believes the rebels are preparing this country for a retreat; troops wanted. *Sieur de Grosselin* going to look for *M. Cerré's* merchandize. Will warn Hamilton if the rebels take possession.....

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March (?), Quebec.

General Haldimand. Remarks on Hamilton's letter dated 18th December, (to 28th), received at Quebec 19th March, 1779 (see page 246), being criticisms on his measures and proposed measures.....

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April 12, Vincennes.

Rocheblave to Lt.-Governor Hamilton. *M. Monbrun's* report to the Commandant. (Monbrun was intrusted by Lt.-Governor Abbott with orders.) The state of the settlements on the *Rivière aux Chanoins*. The settlers satisfied with the Lt.-Governor's orders, and willing to join his flag. The desire of the Indians to attack the English settlements, kill all they could find, and put a collar on Rocheblave's neck. The hardships of having to suffer, however loyal. The Indians satisfied with the Governor's promises, and ask for pardon, &c.....

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