
ANCIENT FRENCH ARCHIVES.

OR

*EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL
Relating to the Records of CANADA while under the Government of France.*

THURSDAY, 27TH. DECEMBER, 1787.

IT is ORDERED by HIS LORDSHIP, with the advice of the Council, that Messrs. *Dunn, Mabane, De Lery and Graff* at Quebec, and the Gentlemen of the Board at Montreal, or any three of them in each district, be a Committee to inquire into the State and Condition of the ancient Records of the Province, and in what places they are deposited, and to report thereupon to HIS LORDSHIP with all convenient Speed.

THURSDAY, 19TH JUNE, 1788.

ORDERED by HIS LORDSHIP, with the advice of the Council, respecting the ancient Records and Papers in the public offices, that the Committees charged to report their state and condition extend their inquiries to the nature of the contents of the several Books, the period each Volume includes, its folios or pages, its blanks, its index, and external mark; and distinctions, its actual condition or state of preservation, its authenticity, and to what office it appertained, and its present place of deposit; and to all such other inquires as may occur to the Committees to be pertinent, relative to all public papers prior to the conquest.

MONDAY, 12TH. APRIL, 1790.

HIS LORDSHIP communicates to the board the result of the order of the 27th December 1787, respecting the condition of the ancient French records, comprised in two Reports by *Mr. Dunn* from the Committee charged to inspect those found in the district of Quebec, as well as the representation from *M. De Belesfre*, chairman of the committee charged to inspect those found in the district of Montreal. — ORDERED that the said reports, and representation be entered in the minutes, and it is referred to a committee of the whole council to report what may be necessary for the future disposition of the said records; HIS LORDSHIP at the same time recommending it to the council, to consider what in particular may be more immediately expedient; as to such parcels thereof as appear to concern the ancient jurisdiction of Three-Rivers, and to redeem those that relate to Montreal from their present dangerous condition.

MONDAY, 4TH JANUARY, 1791.

Read a further report respecting the French records at Montreal in execution of the order of the 27th December, 1787.

HIS LORDSHIP recommends to the consideration of the Council, what course may be expedient respecting the ancient records, in pursuance of the late Act or Ordinance for rendering these Archives useful and safe.

Ordered by His Lordship, with the advice of the Council, that the Clerk cause the several Orders, together with so much of the reports and proceedings on this subject as may be necessary and useful for the information of the public, to be printed in both languages; and that a sufficient number of copies be transmitted to the several Sheriffs to be by them distributed among