

Madison, Wisconsin, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 1862.

Rev. J. B. Furland, Quebec.

My Dear Sir:

In the year 1846, I prepared for, & had published in, the Olden Time Magazine, of Pittsburgh, Pa., an article on Capt. Robert Stobo, & Jacob Van Braam. Since then, in 1854, a small work on Stobo has been republished, bringing his life down to the Spring of 1860.

I am about to revise my Stobo article, & with other papers on Western history, have it published in a volume, with some such title as Random Sketches of Western History. In doing so, I wish to avail myself of all the additional light the past fifteen years have thrown upon the subject. I notice in the

Historical Magazine, for May, 1857,  
that a correspondent states  
on your authority, that the  
papers relating to Stobo's im-  
-prisonment as a hostage had  
been recently found in Canada  
— "the intercepted letters, containing  
his plans of the French forts, and  
details of their garrisons, etc., as  
well as the investigation into  
his escape, which he effected by  
winning the good graces of the  
jailer's daughter: Washington's capitula-  
-tion of Fort Mifflin was found  
at the same time; & that all  
these papers are to be published  
by the Canadian Government."

Have these documents been  
published in extenso? If not,  
is it expected they will be soon,  
& in what form? I should be  
really glad to see them, & avail  
myself of such of them as

might serve my purpose.

I presume the capitulation  
of Fort Mifflin is the same  
we have in Washington's Writings &  
Other American Histories; & if not  
is alluded to in The Historical  
Magazine extract about Stobo's  
plans of the French posts, relates  
to Fort Pitt, or rather Fort Duquesne  
alone, then that is preserved,  
& published in the Penn<sup>a</sup>. Colonial  
Records & Archives; but if it  
refers to plans & details of other  
posts & garrisons, I sh<sup>d</sup>. be very glad  
to know it, with at least a synopsis  
of them. The investigation with  
reference to his escape, I sh<sup>d</sup>.  
also be gratified to obtain.

I have no certain knowledge  
of the release of Capt. Van Braam  
from his long Canadian captivity.  
Have you any knowledge of it?

While venturing to peep in making

historical inquiries, I may as well  
free my mind in adding a few others.

Sieur de Ligny, who figured promi-  
-nently in Canadian military affairs,  
in 1759, & for many preceding years,  
was in Wisconsin with an Expedition  
against the Indians, in 1728. I am  
anxious to learn wh't. I can of his career.  
Also of Sieur Marin (I am not certain  
of his first name) who figured in an  
Expedition against the Fox Ind<sup>s</sup> of  
Wisconsin in or about 1730. I hardly  
think this was the Marin who died at  
Fort Le Bouruff, in N.W. Pa. in 1753.

Philip Rocheblave is another char-  
-acter I am anxious to learn about  
— he lived in Illinois, but after our  
Revolutionary war returned to Canada,  
& I think settled at Varennes, not very  
far from Montreal. Have you any knowl-  
-edge of him, or <sup>can you</sup> refer me to anyone  
you may think able to enlighten me?

I am Corresponding Secretary of the Wisconsin  
Hist. Society. Is yr. Canadian Hist. Society alive  
& active? If so, our Society wd. be glad to correspond  
& exchange with it.

I shall be glad to be able to serve you in  
turn. — Very truly yours,  
Symon C. Draper.