

NOTES ON THE COLLECTION:

February 4, 1980

Louisiana Miscellany.

Users of container 1 [microfilm reel 1], the Chevalier de Beaurain's 1776 manuscript copy of Jean-Baptiste Bénard de La Harpe's "Journal Historique Concernant l'Etablissement des François à la Loüisianne tiré des Memoires de M.<sup>rs</sup> d'Iberville et de Bienville," should be aware of a lengthy article on Bénard de La Harpe's career. Mildred Mott Wedel's article is entitled "J.-B. Bénard: Sieur de La Harpe: Visitor to the Wichitas in 1719," Great Plains Journal, Vol. 10, No. 2 (Spring 1971), 37-60. The article, however, is a full review of de La Harpe's lengthy (he died at age 85) life and exploits in Peru, France, Louisiana, and the Great Plains. Mrs. Wedel's lengthy footnotes appear on pp. 60-70. A copy of the article is available in the Louisiana Miscellany case file in the Manuscript Division office.

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This note is in addition to the information contained in a note on the collection dated February 4, 1980. In 1974, Mildred Mott Wedel published "The Benard de La Harpe Historiography on French Colonial Louisiana," Louisiana Studies, Vol. XIII, No. 1 (Spring 1974), 9-67. Mrs. Wedel has written the Manuscript Division that, subsequent to the publication of the Louisiana Studies article, she located a La Harpe letter in the Archives de la Marine (Paris) "in which he describes a manuscript he is assembling which is an accurate description of the Journal Historique. He was there awaiting a new assignment after his trip up the Arkansas River."

Additionally, Mrs. Wedel writes that another copy of the Journal Historique surfaced in the Chicago Historical Society (after 1974). "However, it ends when he [La Harpe] left Louisiana for France. So this is in accordance with my suggestion that he started work on the JH before leaving for Paris." A copy of Mrs. Wedel's article in Louisiana Studies is available in the Louisiana Miscellany case file in the Manuscript Division office.



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