

(like this old Joe), "*Point de Loix ici!*" He even gave proof of this to one named Charley who asked for his pay, and got for answer a gun shot in his side with powder and ball.

There was a report that this Joseph Reah intended to set out with his loads of peltries, either for the Americans, or, as some said, for Roche de Bout.⁶¹ This last place was confirmed to me by a warning from Mr. Saffray, so I decided to go and seize the peltries that he was planning to carry off, seeing that the rascal was not trading with me any more, but was seeking only the chance to evade me. I left on September 29 with one of my men for that purpose, but found that he had already started for Roche de Bout. So I set myself in pursuit. Mr. Rivet went with me to recover a horse which belonged to him, or make Reah pay for it. I came up with him on the road some leagues from White River and seized all his peltries and a horse, as you will see by the certified statement, but with no personal injury to himself despite his assertions to the contrary (it is true I had my carbine with me but everyone knows that I never go out without it; as I depend on it for game for myself and my people, but my man had neither cane nor cudgel). I told him that if I found him with any more peltries I would do the same up to the amount of what he owed me, since he would not settle with me.

He is a scamp whom I have waylaid on the highway when he was carrying off my property on that highway. The legislature has justly imposed a punishment for larceny. I regard as such the action of Joseph Reah in taking my peltries. I was paying him to sell my merchandise, and I seized what was left (you can prove this by the statement of goods returned). The sales he made without my knowledge constitute the same crime and those who bought the things, knowing this, may be called receivers of stolen goods. That was the law under the French régime. Mr. Gray,⁶² who ap-

61 Roche de Bout is a rocky point on the Maumee River about a mile above modern Waterville, Lucas County, Ohio. Nearby was fought the Battle of Fallen Timbers by General Wayne in August, 1794.

62 Probably David Gray, a trader who was operating in the Maumee and Wabash