

might acquaint the Governor with it, as it may not strike him in the same light. I certainly am or ought to be a judge of the Provisions necessary to carry on the trade of this place, & I know that when four Vessells arrived here in the Spring, loaded with Corn & Flour mostly, there was not too much, nor hardly ever any left, the trade is now increased, therefore at least the same Quantities of Provisions wanted to Support it. I want 1000 Bushels of Corn myself & 30 thousand of Flour, who only furnish a few of the Traders.

Young M^r Barth, LaVoine & Louisen²⁶ are all well. I have seen them this winter, the old Brother will do well, if he does not meet with some accident & I will do my best to serve the others however as yett they dont seem to have the same good inclinations, its true they are Young.

I'm Glad to hear M^r Barth is well, I expect he will soon be here, for I dont suppose he will go to the Miamis as he intended. I hope he has applied the money I gave him to the discharging of his Debts at Detroit, it realy hurts me to think of him indebted to any person, if he told me right he had more than sufficient from me to pay what he owed.

We are impatient for news I hope matters have taken a favourable turn since last fall.

We have endeavoured to make the Winter pass as agreeably as we could, by having a Dance every week. I had a Daughter came up from Montreal last Spring the age of Phyllis.²⁷ She is married to Cap^t Robertson this Winter, a match that pleases me well, this example will shew Phillis that she's not too Young & I realy think once past fifteen [one] cannot marry too soon, provided it is their Inclinations.

²⁶ "Young Mr. Barthe" was Jean Baptiste, for whom see *ante*, 34.

Lavoine Barthe (precise relationship uncertain) was at this time serving as clerk to Jean Baptiste at the Sault at an annual wage of 1000 livres. See Barthe ms. ledger in Burton Hist. Coll.

"Louisen" was Louis Theophile Barthe, a younger brother of Jean Baptiste, born at Detroit, March 31, 1760, and buried at Sandwich, May 16, 1825. Denissen, *op. cit.*

²⁷ The person here noted is, apparently, Phyllis Barthe, who later married Lieutenant Daniel Mercer of the Eighth Regiment. Mercer was stationed at Mackinac for a time where he managed, like almost everyone else, to incur the disfavor of Governor Sinclair, and in the summer of 1780 was placed under arrest. He later served at Detroit, where, presumably, he made the acquaintance of Phyllis Barthe. In Denissen, *op. cit.*, she is recorded as Mary Felicity Barthe, born on Ste. Anne Street, December 18, 1762. Lieutenant Mercer eventually returned to England, and numerous letters from him are preserved in the Askin Papers.