

Missionaries can not mettle [meddle] with trading. Because in the first place it is hurtfull to their character as Missionaries. This was the case of one of our former Missionaries, who upon that Account had to leave the Mission. And then, we have no leisure at all to attend to it. I could show you it plainly, if we would have to see You once here on a Visit. Let me assure You, that I sometimes do not know, how to get time, to do all what belongs to my business & besides that I have to learn a very difficult language.

Respecting the Goods Mr Barthe left with Jacob last Year, I send You a Statement. M^r Barthe takes the next down You will receive by This Opportunity the Corn & some skins, which are paid for it. Only 8 quart of Salt were not paid to Jacob. How much Corn you will get I do not know as yet, but I will mention it, before I close the letter. Jacob told our people that you wished they should add some Corn more for the Goods had of him, because You could not take the Corn for more than 4/ per Bush. Some came to me & asked me if the[y] should pay for the Goods twice. I told them Your meaning, but They said, if they had known it, that You would take the Corn only for 4/ they would never have bought any of the Goods, because they could sell that time their Corn for 6/ here on the River. Wheat is very scarce in the town & only few raise some. So are skins, because our people dont hunt much. I am very sorry that I could not accomplish the business to Your Satisfaction, but I am not able to do more, as I did. I have to add, that Jacob was obliged to throw away 15 Bush of Corn, which were quite spoiled by the Vermin. You will be so kind as to settle with Jacob in such a Manner, that he will have no damage by it, as it gave him much trouble.

Jacob had some Coffee & suggar from Charles Askin to trade with. He sends some skins for the payment & the next as you will find in the other Paper. Anne Mary (Molly) askes me to write you, that she had given 2 Bush of Wheat to Mr Barthe as a payment for Goods which she took last Year in Detroit.

We took from the Goods an Ax for £1, & an Adze £1 and a Scythe 8/ And as we have no corn to spare & sold our wheat, Mr Denke will settle it, when he goes down to Detroit