

of Fish addressed to Capt<sup>n</sup> Whipple<sup>48</sup> & there left them. The keg & Bundle was brought home a few days ago by a Soldier who had taken them to the Block House not knowing to whom they appertained at that time but on enquiry found they belonged to me You'll be pleased to write to Capt<sup>n</sup> Whipple & inform him of the Circumstance; for he no doubt must have been verry pressing on insisting Mills to find his Fish.

The Winter set in verry early & has been verry hard We have 5 feet of snow about our houses & elsewhere about 4 feet regular from the severity of the Weather the Indians do not bring us any Rabbits pheasants or Partridges. they [the] only supply we receive from them is Trout, Maske-longe & Pickrel. I can assure you I never knew any set of poor devils so wretched & miserable as the Savages of this place. They are so far put to the Test of EO Economy that they make Mokasins of the Sturgeon & Maskelonge Skin Their Snow shoes are All laced with those skins & nothing else The Sturgeon skin appears to me to be nearly as strong as Calf skin I'm persuaded great improvement may be made on it by Tanning it properly. From the Great Scarsity of Indian Corn & other grain the Inhabitants of this place have been under the Necessity of killing all their Poultry. All the Hogs are starved to Death & it will be with great difficulty to prevent the Horned Cattle from the same fate owing to the Hay of the country which is verry bad & appears to have no substance thro [though] cut & cured in the proper season. I'm confident that 500 B<sup>ls</sup> of Corn would have been sold & at any price thats to say from 14/ to 16/ Pr Bush<sup>l</sup>. Indeed I have been offered 48/ for a Bush<sup>l</sup>. It was verry fortunate that M<sup>r</sup> Duff shipt a few Bush<sup>ls</sup> in the *Nancy* for me, which will keep my mare, three Turkies

<sup>48</sup> John Whipple was a native of Manchester, Mass., who became an ensign in the Second U. S. Infantry, July 2, 1797, and came to Detroit in the capacity of an army officer. He became a captain, April 11, 1803, and resigned from the army, Jan. 31, 1807. He was a friend of Governor Hull, and through his influence was appointed associate judge of the Territorial District Court in 1809. He was proprietor of the Mansion House from 1818 to 1824, and register of deeds from 1826 to 1830, when he was appointed keeper of the lighthouse at La Plaisance Bay.

On Jan. 11, 1800, Whipple married Archange Peltier, daughter of Jacques Amable Peltier and Magdelene Levasseur, who was born in Detroit, Nov. 14, 1782. They had a family of fifteen children. Data adapted from *Proc. of the Land Board of Detroit*, 211-12; Heitman, *Reg. U. S. A.*; and Denissen, *op. cit.*