

cles with Mr. Dickson, who remains here until the arrival of the Indian presents, which have been delayed in consequence of the attack and blockade of this Island. The latter inconvenience we happily got rid of, by capturing, with our detachment of seamen, assisted by soldiers from the garrison, both the vessels which the enemy left for that purpose—for us a very fortunate event, which, I trust, will enable us not only to receive our Indian goods, but an adequate supply of provisions. As I am expecting a reinforcement in the course of a week or ten days, in which, I trust, I shall not be disappointed, it will then be in my power to detach an officer and about thirty men to Fort McKay to winter.

You will observe that it will wholly depend on my getting the men which I wrote for, and fully expect. With them I shall strain every nerve to furnish you with whatever can be spared from this place, as well Indian supplies, as arms, powder and tobacco.

Mr. Rolette has contracted to supply the garrison, to the number of sixty men, with provisions for a year. When more, for any unforeseen emergency, is required, it must be provided on the best terms you can procure, taking care that you strictly conform to the mode pointed out for your guidance by Mr. Asst. Dep. Com. Gen'l Monk, at this place; and that the utmost accuracy is observed in your certificates as to the number of men victualled. To enable Mr. Rolette to fulfill his contract, you will transfer to him the salt now in possession, in whatever way you deem best, as you in your capacity of Commandant, must regulate everything as will most tend to the good of the service. What chimneys, fuel, or other indispensable articles may be required, you will direct to be furnished accordingly, never deviating from the established rule of procuring everything at the most reasonable rate. Mr. Rolette has been advanced £200, on account of his contract, the terms of which are sent you, and which must be scrupulously adhered to. You will, of course, ascertain that strict justice is done to the troops; and that the bills drawn upon the Commissary here, are in conformity to the exact amount of provisions supplied.