

ders, and as exactly as possible, makes it necessary for me to trouble you much more on some heads than I perhaps ought to do; but as the good of the service requires, as long as I hold my present situation, that I should seek every information in this way, I take the liberty to ask you what authority I have with respect to the Indian Department, and whether the necessary provisions, etc., for Indians are furnished by the garrison, or whether the officers of that Department make those purchases themselves?

The Sauks or Mississippi Indian heroes have just arrived, and brought word that a party lately arrived from the Riviere Des Forts,¹ brought in ten scalps, and say they will continue to bring them in as they do ducks from the swamps. The want of provisions has been the cause of my not making an attempt there. Everything must be ready for a start in the Spring. Should the reinforcements of troops reach here in time, I should deem it best to make an attack this Fall, as it would be an important point for the defense of this, to obstruct the passage of their boats. I am impatient for instructions.

I am informed that representations have been made at Mackinaw with respect to my conduct in the execution of my duty here; but as they proceed from envy and meanness, I do not regard them. My actions have ever been conducted by the purest motives for the good of the service; and if I did not give the command of the expedition to the Rock River to Captain Grignon, it was because his conduct in the pursuit of the American gun-boat, at the taking of this place, on the 19th of July last, would not authorize me to entrust a command of so much consequence to his charge.

MICHILIMACKINAC, 28th Oct. 1814.

To Captain Anderson—

Sir:—I was highly gratified on receiving your dispatch, announcing the defeat of another attempt of the enemy to ascend the Mississippi for an attack on your post. I also fully approve of the judicious measures you adopted to counteract their in-

¹ So it appears in the manuscript; perhaps Des Moines River is the stream referred to. L. C. D.