

mostly Pottawatomies, having arrived here yesterday. I immediately on their arrival suspected them to be spies from the enemy, or the advanced party of a greater number. I asked them what they were; and told them in a stern manner if they were Pottawatomies, they should walk off immediately. On this they presented two letters from Mr. Chandonnet, informing me of all the traders on the south side of the Lake [Michigan] having been taken by the Americans, and carried to Detroit. The six Indians did not deny this, but wished and seemed anxious to have us think that there were no Indians employed in this business.

They say John Bapt. Chandonnet, and Burnet, were the leaders; and that there were only six Frenchmen in all who took the traders. I suspect the truth to be that a strong party of Pottawatomies were employed in this business; and that the other Indians were either unable, or perhaps unwilling, to prevent them. Chandonnet is alarmed, and with much reason. I now enclose you a letter for him to come to La Baye with the powder and ball remaining. The Folles Avoines are mostly assembled here, and will not hesitate to give battle should a party appear. The moment we find that these six men are scouts for a party, their accounts will be settled. After the traders having been carried off, we must act with severity. Be on your guard at La Baye against the Milwaukee Indians. There are a great many scoundrels among them, and I have heard something lately that gives me strong suspicions against them.

I shall detain the six Indians until after tomorrow. If no party appears during that time, I shall send them off clothed, on account of their doing mischief to Chandonnet. I cannot learn what is become of Le Sallien. Chandonnet has not seen him since he came from La Baye.

I shall inform the Pottawatomies, that in the first place I have no goods for them, and forbid them coming here; and if they persist, I shall treat them as enemies. So much for these villains. Inform Mr. Grignon and the gentlemen of La Baye of what has passed. I trust no time will be lost in sending up the wheat, as I am of opinion that the weather