

will soon be soft. The roads are now fine and we must not lose the opportunity.

James Burnet must be an infernal villain after having been commissioned as a Lieutenant and taken the oath of allegiance and fidelity. I hope that one day he may be rewarded by a halter.

With best wishes for your health,

I am, dear sir,

Yours truly,

R. DICKSON.

P. S. I hope that the enclosure will be in time to go by the Indians you were to send. If they are gone, send after them with the letter.

Lieut. John Lawe, La Baye.

WINNEBAGO LAKE, February 16, 1814.

Dear Sir:—I received yours with the express from Mackinac this morning. There is nothing new, except that two hundred Americans had gone up the river Trenche, and had been cut off by our troops. This is only Indian report; but I believe it, as it was so likely they would attempt a thing of this kind. They are not so badly off for provisions at Mackinac as we supposed, having flour enough to last until June.

Depend on it, we shall have good news by Montreal express. Dr. Mitchell¹ did not expect it before the 20th of this

¹ Dr. David Mitchell was a native of Edinburgh, Scotland, where he was educated, and entered the British army as a surgeon. He married Miss Elizabeth Bertrand, at Montreal, in July, 1776. He seems to have been continuously connected with the army, and when the British captured Mackinaw in 1812, he became a resident there with his family; and, as we see by Col. Dickson's letter, he had been assigned to the Indian service in 1813-14, on Lake Winnebago; and was, no doubt, at that period the only physician between Mackinaw and the Mississippi. After the peace of 1815, he retired with the British troops to Drummond's Island, leaving Mrs. Mitchell at the homestead in Mackinaw, carrying on quite an extensive business in the fur-trade. She was a great lover of floriculture, and hence