was not able to go to Missilīmakinac [1] with my Indians until the 31st where after presenting my orders to the Commandant and receiving his I set out again the 6th [November] for la Baye and arrived there the 25th where I began to announce your plans which I supported and confirmed in Indian fashion by wampum belts and presents.

If it should please [2] your excellency to grant to his humble servant the freedom to decide, he would not have so much trouble and anxiety, he would amuse himself with his friends and presently he would have more ample knowledge of hot-headedness than he will ever have of Indian disposition he would also be exempt in the matter of jealousy and all criticism.

I implore your clemency and as a novice 'in this art I hope you will design to receive with indulgence this journal that I make with no other view than to try to make my zeal equal to the oppinion that you have of me in elevating me to the summit of such a tree that the least wind only throws me down.

While I remained at this post [La Baye], I sent runners to the winter quarters of the Indians in the vicinity with belts and presents both to several folles avoines [3] and to puants [4] seeing that M. de Langlade [5] did not come into this region this year.

The 11th [December], Sabacherez fol avoine died whom I had buried the 22nd December, I covered him and as I came to raise the nation I started out better than I have although some beggars learned of my arrival and did not spare [7] me, and I set out again the 23 after sending the nations to seek out their winter quarters and to inform

[1] See *Wis. Hist. Coll.*, vii., p. 125, for various spellings of Michilimackinac. Cf. also Butterfield's *Discovery of the Northwest*, p. 55, *note* 1; and *N. Y. Col. Docs.*, index.— ED.

[2] *Cent il plu a Votre Excel*, etc.— TR.

[3] Menomonees.— ED.

[4] Winnebagoes.— ED.

[5] Charles Michel de Langlade, his uncle — ED.

[6] "*Jay mieux fait les egresse que je nanvois du aussi bien qua dautre mandian qui ayant sen mon arrivée ne mont pas epargné et suis reparty*," etc.— TR.