

carefully preserved) & as the cold weather must pinch them before they reach their houses I could not refuse them some cloathing. I likewise furnished them with Canoes, as many of their Canoes were rendered unfit to proceed. Half of their guns either wanted repairing or exchanging.

Demands were made upon me for payment of their own Canoes which they said were not paid them according to promise at Montreal. They made a claim for provisions taken the second Campaign. In this I however put them off till I have an opportunity of seeing their Leaders. Some of them brought me orders for Kegs of Rum &c and I have been obliged to cover their dead afresh. The Rum they got at Montreal to take to their Vilages they drank coming up the Country & they also used their Tobacco & expended their ammunition so that I have had all those articles to furnish over or run the risk of forfeiting all we have ever done.

At length I have sent the Labay Indians off pleased with promises — on their parts not to listen to the rebels at the Illinois from which quarter I have not heard anything since my last letter. I am in hopes the Traders have received my orders to turn up the Mississipy in time so as to avoid falling into their hands.

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(Signed) A. S. DE PEYSTER.

DE PEYSTER TO HALDIMAND.

MICHILIMACKINAC 24th October 1778.

SIR,—Your Excellency's Letters of the 30th August and 2nd of September I received the 21st instant by De Grose-lier.¹ I received about the same time a Letter from L^t Gov^r Hamilton which he left to be forwarded from Detroit. As [had] the Indians not been gone to their several homes before I received Mr. Hamiltons Letters it would have been

¹J. B. de Grosselier, recommended to De Peyster by Haldimand as a man capable of being made use of in the Illinois country.—*Mich. Pion. Coll.*, ix., p. 353.—Ed.