

news that the Virginians are building boats at or near Milwaukee, and have sent Belts, which were accepted of by the Ottawas and Chippewas, requesting of them to remain at the Grand River till the Virginians had taken this Fort, and put it into the hands of their old friends the French. A man who arrived yesterday from the same place says, that this news came from the Grand River to the Chief Gorce, who wintered at the Traverse, that Gorce did not believe it, and sent to the Grand River to get further information that the enemy were said to be at the Chickagou and not at Milwaukee, a disaffected chief of Milwaukee (named Sagenake) was to lead the first division. The Major has dispatched people to reconnoitre and get every possible intelligence, he says if they shou'd only come that way, and the Indians keep firm, they may chance to regret their voyage, but should Detroit fall, the friendship of the Indians will fall with it.

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I am &c

(Signed)

MASON BOLTON.

DE PEYSTER TO HALDIMAND.

MICHILIMACKINAC the 1st of June 1779.

SIR,— On the 24th Instant I was honored with your Excellency's Letter of the 25th Decem^r 1778. The sending a party to the Gr Portage, is what I had represented to Lieut Colonel Bolton as by no means safe from so small a Garrison in the present critical situation of affairs I am glad to find you are of the same opinion.

Your Excellency may depend upon it that I never have nor never shall undertake any Expence lightly at any Post I may have the honor to command I am extremely sorry to find that there is a likelihood of the Expences at this Post rather increasing than otherwise as the Indians are growing very importunate since they hear that the French are assisting the rebels — The Canadians I fear are of great dis-