

the last year may enter it this year. I mean those which were for the different stations from St. Mary's keeping the north shore, such may be trusted who are used to Trade to the Peek, Michipiota, Nippigon and the Grand Portage, so into the North West.

Mr. Barthe at St. Mary's may have two Canoes and Mr. Cadot one, included in the twenty for this place.

The Indians are hanging upon me in great numbers to know if they are to be employ'd, I have repeatedly wrote to Captain Lemoult to know if he wants their assistance but have no answer from him. I am loth to send off party's to the Illinois without your express orders for doing so, at best it would only be productive of much cruelty, perhaps exercised upon the undeserving, still many small partys will steal off, and I think that I observed the Winnipigoes are to bring in some Prisoners. It was necessary to put them to the test to know if they are our real Friends or not, and to show the Sacks and Reynards that they are so.

Wabasha the Sioux has sent in Rocq the Intepreter with his son and some young men to acquaint me he stopt at the Dog Plains¹ on being informed that Mr. Hamilton was taken & that Gautier had retreated. He desires to know if he shall strike the Sacks and Reynards for having stopt Gautier, and for having listened to the Rebels. It would be by no means prudent to encourage an Indian war, and I hear that three or four hundred Chippewas of the plains (People who never come in here) are on their march to attack Wabasha, having lately had some of their people killed by the Sioux.

I do not recollect any Trader having gone by here without a Pass. I once reported that two men from Montreal had left it on their way to Duport or Michilimakinac, and as they never reached Detroit it was supposed they had entered the Oswego River. This information I got from a Mr. McNamara who I believe did not recollect their names.

I believe the Sieur Alvé [Calvé] to be a very inoffensive man. It would not be amiss to give him a Dollar and a

¹ Prairie du Chien.— ED.