

ration a day and send him into the Sack and Reynard country where he has some influence, otherwise I have too many useless people about me, none but the Interpreter who can give me any real assistance. Rocq I send to the Sioux Country.

Mr. Langlade & Mr. Gautier should be kept in pay and in temper, tho' they at present are rather a burthen upon me. To send them upon an Expedition without Troops is doing nothing, and Your Excell^y will see by my former letters, how much it is out of my power to spare a man from this place. Those two gentlemen represent that they cannot live at this extravagant place upon their allowance having a constant run of Indians who snatch the bread out of their mouths.

They beg of me to represent to Your Excellency that should their friends apply for a pass to send them a Canoe,¹ You will please to grant them one.

* * * * *

I am with the greatest respect, Sir Your Excellency's most Hum^l & obed^t Servant

A. S. DE PEYSTER

P. S. I have [hear] this moment that the Canoe is setting off.

His Excell^y the Commander in Chief.

Indorsed: "rec^d at Quebec the 28th June."

DE PEYSTER TO HALDIMAND.

MICHILIMACKINAC 27th June 1779.

SIR,—Your Excellency's letters of the 30th April & 6th May only came to hand on the 24th instant owing to Leekey Canoes and hard gales on the Lakes.

I acquainted you lately that I had been obliged to purchase goods. The Indians hung about the Fort in great

¹ The phrase, "send them a canoe," frequently occurring in these letters, means, in this connection, to "send them a canoe-load of goods," for their fur-trade. Neither traders' supplies nor individual travelers were allowed to go into the upper country without a pass from the military authorities; hence the annoyance felt by Major De Peyster upon learning of any infractions of this martial rule.—ED.