

numbers waiting to hear if they were wanted at Detroit at length the [they] grew tired and all the strangers filled [filed] off to their homes.

I have received your Letters by Detroit and one from Captain Brehm¹ by a traders Batteaux. The answer to which I have dispatched with a light Batteaux and nine oars so that he will know our wants in a few days.

On hearing of Mr. Hamilton's defeat I did all that this sand would allow of to put his Fort in a state of Defence.

The Sand Hills lately reported² are now nearly levelled, so as to prevent any lodgement behind them.

By creditable people just arrived from the Illinois I have the following accounts so late as 24th of April. Clarke was returned from Post Vincent with most of his people, and one Mr. George³ was also arrived from Carolina with forty men, and they talked of a reinforcement under the Command of Montgomery.⁴

The Kaskaskias no ways fortified. The Fort being still a sorry picketed enclosure, round the Jesuits Colledge with two plank Houses at opposite Angles, mounting two four pounders each on the Ground Floor and a few Swivels mounted in Pidgeen [pigeon] Houses.⁵ The Militia are about one hundred and fifty men, serving much against their inclination. Provisions were growing very scarce, and no supplys of goods from below, the Fort at the River Natches having stoped their convoys, thither Clarke proposed to march when he got answers to some letters.

¹ Capt. Diedrick Brehm, Haldimand's aid-de-camp. Brehm had been sent by Haldimand to Detroit, "to get all the Information of the situation, wants, etc., of your Post [Michilimackinac] and what could be done toward its defence" (*Mich. Pion. Coll.*, ix., p. 412). He arrived May 25, and five days later wrote to De Peyster for information. The latter replied under date of June 20 (*Id.*, pp. 386-87).—ED.

² In letter to Brehm, June 20.—ED.

³ Capt. Robert George, who had arrived at Kaskaskia, from New Orleans, with forty-one men, while Clark was absent on his Vincennes expedition.—ED.

⁴ John Montgomery, one of Clark's four captains in the Kaskaskia campaign.—ED.

⁵ William F. Poole, in Winsor's *Narr. and Crit. Hist. Amer.* (vi., pp. 719-721), clearly proves that Fort Gage was in Kaskaskia.—ED.