

and many of its statements are at complete variance with all the contemporary documents and with Captain Grignon's account. Written at that age, and fifty-six years after the events it records, the errors in Anderson's narrative are not, perhaps, to be wondered at, but they are nevertheless very serious. Anderson's journal, presumably written at the date it bears, relates to the time he was in temporary command after McKay was sent off to carry out the instructions of Colonel McDouall in other quarters, and before Captain Bulger's arrival. The correspondence between Colonel McKay and Captain Perkins,<sup>1</sup> commanding Fort Shelby, at Prairie du Chien, for the Americans, completely disproves the statements respecting delay on the part of the former in prosecuting the attack. The force left Michilimackinac on the 28th of June, arrived at Green Bay on the 4th or 5th of July, and reached Prairie du Chien on the 17th, at noon. On that same day the following summons was sent:

OLD FORT, PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, July 17, 1814.

SIR,—An hour after the receipt of this, surrender to His Majesty's forces under my command, unconditionally, otherwise I order you to defend yourself to the last man. The humanity of a British officer obliges me (in case you should be obstinate) to request you will send out of the way your women and children.

I am, Sir,

Your very humble servant,

W. MCKAY,

Lt. Col. Commanding the Expedition.

The answer was short and to the point, and appears to have been returned without delay or hesitation:—

FORT SHELBY, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 1814.

SIR,—I received your polite note and prefer the latter, and am determined to defend to the last man.

Yours, &c.,

JOS. PERKINS, .

Capt. Commanding United States Troops.

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<sup>1</sup> Joseph Perkins, appointed second lieutenant in the 24th infantry, from Mississippi Territory, Jan. 22, 1813; became first lieutenant Aug. 15, 1813.  
— Ed.