

The date on the answer was originally written the 16th, but changed apparently at the time, the ink being identical in color, by the proper figure being written over it. Two day after, the fort was surrendered, the letter from the commander being in these terms:

FORT SHELBY, July 19th, 1814.

SIR,—I am willing to surrender the garrison and troops under my command, provided you will save and protect the officers and men, and prevent the Indians from ill-treating them.

I am respectfully,

Your obedient humble servant,

JOSEPH PERKINS, Capt.,

Commander U. S. Troops.

Col. William McCary, Commanding the Expedition.

The irritation of the Indians, as is shown clearly from Colonel McDouall's letter to General Gordon Drummond, *post*, was such as to lead Lieut. Colonel McKay to take every precaution for the safety of the American troops, so that he desired Captain Perkins to delay the surrender.

OLD FORT, PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, July 19th 1814.

Sir,—I will thank you to prolong the hour to march out of your fort till eight o'clock to-morrow morning, when you shall march out with the honours of war, parade before the fort, deliver up your arms and put yourself under the protection of the troops under my command.

I am Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

W. MCKAY, Lt.-Col.

Commanding Expedition.

It may be stated, as the most positive evidence of the correctness of the dates here given, that the correspondence [in the Canadian archives] is in the respective handwritings of Lieut. Colonel McKay and Captain Perkins, the original letters sent by McKay being of course retained by Perkins, but the copies preserved in the Canadian archives were made by McKay's own hand, whilst the answers are the originals, as is also the report sent to Colonel McDouall.