

abandoned me immediately on the receipt of their share of the prize, my trifling force of Volunteers cannot warrant anything honorable by making that tour.

I beg to remark that in case the intention is to retain this place, a reinforcement of Fifty regular Troops would be necessary, a quantity of ammunition, agreeable to a list herewith, for the guns, and pork for their provisions. As to flour plenty of that article can be procured here in a month and a half from this. My reason for making this remark is that my decided opinion is that from this to the fall an attack may undoubtedly be looked for from below, and if four or five of these floating blockhouses come up armed, as the Governor Clarke was, our present force is certainly not equal to prevent their repulsing us unless more particularly favored by providence than before.

As soon as I can get certain information of the enemies situation, and if I find they are fortifying themselves anywhere from this to Fort Madison, I will go down and try and dislodge them. But if I am convinced there is no danger by leaving this, I will as soon as such news may be ascertained go into Mackinac. But not otherwise.

It was with much difficulty I preserved the prisoners from the Puants, but having made use of supplications, then threats, &c., till at length they became less violent, and at last by keeping a strong guard over them, the Indians went off doing them no injury.

My intention was to have kept the prisoners here till I got certain information from below, and if the enemy came here and fired a single shot, to have sacrificed them to the Indians. But I am sorry that circumstances oblige me absolutely to send them to St. Louis. By keeping them here any longer would cut me quite short of provisions, and as to sending in to Mackinac, a sufficient force to guard them would leave me quite destitute of resources in case of an attempt from below, I have therefore determined to send them off to-morrow morning and let them take their risk under a small guard. The enemy had three men wounded in the Fort, two severely but not dangerously, the other slightly, and report says five men were killed and ten wounded in the