

there are 2 three-pounders and 3 mortars. The Sauks, Renards and Kickapoos were engaged in this action, they lost two men and one woman killed. To give an idea how desperate the Indians were, the women even jumped on board with their hoes, &c., some breaking heads, others breaking casks, some trying to cut holes in her bottom to sink her, and others setting fire to her decks. As one of the barges was making from shore the Ioway that came from Mackinac with me jumped on her deck and with his hatchet cut a hole and fired his gun among the Americans in the boat, then plunged into the river and made his escape ashore.

Those Indians came here for a supply of ammunition. I send them off to morrow morning with ten kegs gunpowder and a few presents of goods, &c. It is very fortunate that I received your reinforcement of gunpowder at the Bay, the demand for that article has been very great, as also for tobacco, but now both are nearly out. I shall now go to work and have the fort, &c., put in as good repair as circumstances will admit.

I was taken very ill last evening with a swelling on the right side of the head, and has kept me in a violent fever ever since. I believe it is what in Canada is generally called the *mumps*.

I have the honor to be,

Your very obedient and humble servant,

W. MCKAY,

Lt.-Colonel Commanding.

Fort McKay, 29<sup>th</sup> July, 1814.

*Lt.-Colonel McDouall.*