

from there to the prairie. They were on their route secured by the Sauks and were in great danger of being killed by the Kickapous.

They have given every information I could wish & seem decent Men & were prevailed on for the Sum of One hundred dollars each to run the risque they have done, you will give them in charge to Lieut Pullman to be victualled as the Soldiers and allowed to walk about during the day but regularly to repair to the Barracks at Sun Sett. Demonchelle is unwell please give him some stomactic Medecines.

I have told them what they must expect if they attempt to escape;—Boilvin & Jacrot have addressed two flaming Epistles to the people of the prairie—exhorting them to claim the protection of the great republic before it is too late & a great deal of other stuff, but their main object is to discover whether there is any risque in their ascending the Mississippi this Spring. Brisbois<sup>1</sup> & Rollette laugh at their folly. Rollette has behaved very well as he has communicated all he knows respecting the Indians, he says La Feuille<sup>2</sup> received the powder &c with great joy and said that notwithstanding the ungrateful behaviour of his Nation he was happy that I thought of him and that he trusted their future behavior would be better. L'Aile Rouge gave Wampun to the Yanctongs inviting them to go with him to St Louis this spring saying that his people had relieved Aligné de Petch and that the English could not make head against the Americans. So much for that rascal.

Fort Madison was evacuated & burnt late in the season & all the other Forts have been abandoned except one newly erected at Peoria where there are One Hundred men. The Poutewatamie's to the number of Thirty families are near the Fort & go in and out as they please leaving their arms at the gate. Gommo & the Perdrex Noir with Eight others went down in a boat late in the season with a party of Soldiers to St. Louis. The Poutewatamies have always been villians to both parties & will continue so until the end of

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<sup>1</sup> Michael Brisbois, Sr., of Prairie du Chien.—Ed.

<sup>2</sup> La Feuille, or Wabasha, a Sioux chief.—Ed.