

most exorbitant prices, and on which we have been existing since October.—the proportion of Animal Food purchased, was so small, that I found it necessary on the 1st November, to reduce the ration of Beef to half a pound per day, and since, on the 25th Decmr, to limit the issue of meat to four days in the week, at the above rate—so that the troops &c might have a small proportion of that food as long as possible,—and which they will have until about the middle of the ensuing month.—We must then have recourse to Indian Corn and Fish—of the latter we have been fortunately successful in obtaining a good supply, and on which we must exist until Provisions can be sent us:—The number of Boats &c I can send to Notawasaque and Penetanguishan Bay in the ensuing spring to assist in bringing the supply's &c will be—2 Batteaux, 2 large Birch Canoes, and a *Keel* Boat,—There is no clothing of any description in store, and I send herewith Returns of what is wanted—also a state of the garrison and a nominal List of officers—The men have been paid to the 24th January, except those on command at the Island of St Josephs and Green Bay.—The number of Indians immediately about us are but few and not exceeding Forty.—this being their Hunting season, they are employed in that avocation far back in the woods;—I expect numbers here early in the spring—they appear to be well disposed towards us—nor have I heard of any that have attached themselves to the American Govert,—except a few of the Saguias, Residing at Saguiua Bay on the south side of the Huron—about 150 miles from hence.—I have not been able to obtain any information respecting the Enemy's *vessels*, none of them appeared on Lake Huron last fall, nor have I been able to collect any intelligence from Detroit, notwithstanding I have offered a considerable sum for that purpose:—I shall pay close attention to the works, Picketting &c of the Fort, and my exertions will not be wanted in keeping this Post in the best state of Defence;—Please to inform General Drummond, that Robert Dickson Esqr, Agent & Superintendent to the Western Indians, writes me from Green Bay (on the West side of Lake