

LIEUT. GOV. HAY TO HAMILTON.

DETROIT, July 16th, 1785.

SIR,—At the request of the greatest part of the people in Trade at this place I have the Honor to transmit the enclosed petition and representation, and in Justice to them cannot help assuring you, that I think their present situation alarming, and that if more vessels are not employ'd by Government or permission given for them to transport their property in Craft of their own, the trade of this place will suffer very materially, and probably cause the fall of some of the first houses concern'd in supplying the Merchandize for this place; if not totally prevent Great Britain from reaping the benefits heretofore arising from the sale of a great quantity of her Manufactures—It is my humble opinion also that if the Merchandize which is now on the way to this place, and which may be commissioned hereafter, can be forwarded early enough to supply the trade of the Adjacent Country, as well as many traders in the Mississippi (who can not barter their furs to so great advantage to any as to our traders) the returns will encrease instead of diminishing, of which I have already had the Honor to write you, more circumstantially —

A Memorial to Colonel Hope is likewise gone down requesting the temporary relief of the Gage being ordered to be fitted up; but I am apprehensive if it should be granted the season will be too far advanced for them to reap any material advantage by it —

Many families have arrived here from the Colonies since I had the honor of writing to you concerning them, and many more are on the way, as they can not subsist long on what they have brought with them and as there are no vacant Crown Lands to settle them on they will suffer exceedingly, and hitherto I am not authorized to do anything for them —

I have the honor to be Sir

Your most obedient most humble servant

(Signed)

JOHN HAY.

*The Honble Lt Govr Hamilton —*

Indorsed:—"No. 2 Letter from Lieut Govr. Hay received 17th Augt. 1785. Quebec H Hamilton In Lieut Govr Hamilton's of 17th Augt. 1785."