ceive it, but Colonel Butler (commg. at Detroit) tells me that his instructions are positive, that the restitution of both places shall be simultainous; he proposes to me the 20th May as the day on which mutual restitution shall be made, & his Garrison (he states 16th April) is to move in a few days. Situated, however, as I am & the dilapidated state of St. Joseph, taken into consideration, scarcely any cover for the Troops, or stores, with so little time left for the choice of the most advantageous position for our *new Post*, I feel it to be my duty to prolong our retention of this Post, for various important reasons. I have therefore named the 10th of July to Colonel Butler, as the day on which I shall be prepared to restore this Island agreeable to my instructions.

I now quote Lieut. Col. Harvey's official letter, as to what immediately concerns your command. He says, "with regard to Prairie des Chiens, Lieut. General Drummond directs that no time may be lost in getting rid of all Provincial Establishments, at that Post, and in giving it up to the American Government." You will therefore take instant & immediate steps to carry this order into effect, which, however, unpalatable & unexpected is nevertheless in strict conformity to the Treaty recently concluded.

By the non-arrival of my Dispatches (so peculiarly provoking at such a crisis) I have as yet had no opportunity of seeing the Treaty. It is however, well understood, that one of the articles expressly stipulates, that the Indian Nations are to be on the same footing as before the war. There therefore can be no doubt, that in compliance therewith, the Americans on receiving Fort McKay, as before directed, must evacuate the same, and retire to the boundary of 1812. I shall not fail to remind the Commander of the Forces of this circumstance.

You will remove from Fort McKay & bring with you all the public stores of every discription that you consider worth removing. The Guns captured from the Enemy must be restored with the Fort. However, mortifying, I have