

will afford us of equipping such a Fleet on Lake Erie & Lake Huron as will keep open the communication and secure us the command of these Lakes, by which the supplies for the Indian Nations will be uninterrupted.

---

TO M'DOUALL.

FORT MCKAY, 1st May, 1815.

SIR:—I have the honor to send you a report from Captain Anderson dated the 29th ultimo, acquainting me with a circumstance which will excite your surprise as much as it did mine. On receipt thereof I saw at once from whence the mischief proceeded. It appeared that several officers of the Indian Department having gone to see Mr. Dickson off for Mackinac, had indulged themselves rather liberally in the use of Spirits, and had given free scope to their inclinations to abuse all those who opposed Mr. Dickson's measures, he no doubt bitterly inveighed against you and me: his officers low and servile as they are, re-echoed his words. Captain Graham has, however, carried subservency to that gentleman a little too far, for in its excess, he lost sight of even common respect for me, and totally forgot the duty which he owed to his country, for he ought to have known that the very existance of this Garrison depended in a great measure upon the Indians entertaining a good opinion of the commanding officer, and that if that was once destroyed, I was liable to insults, and the Garrison itself to be injured. The indignation with which I parted with Mr. Dickson in the morning was increased by the conduct of Capt. Graham. As I attributed it solely to Mr. Dickson's instigations, and it was a further proof to me of his intriguing dangerous disposition. Had I passed over Captain Graham's conduct unnoticed, it would have been an encouragement to the interpreters and through them the Indians to speak disrespectfully of me. In order therefore, to put an effectual stop to a liberty of speech so extremely dangerous at this moment, I placed Captain