

you will take immediate steps for distroying the Fort, and withdrawing the Garrison, taking care that the Guns, Gun-carriages & ord[n]ance stores taken with the place, be correctly restored to the American Government, by the best & most convenient mode; either by sending them down the Mississippi, or if that is not practicable, by bringing them to be given up at this Garrison, acquainting the officer commanding at St. Louis of the arrangement made.

Should the nature of the Treaty made, (certainly not such as the Indians had a right to expect,) excite in them such a degree of irritation and ferment, as evidently to endanger the safety of yourself & Garrison, should the Fort be given up to the Americans; & as such a disposition on the part of the Indians, would undoubtedly manifest itself also in acts of hostility to the Detachment of U. States troops, coming to take possession; & tend to embroil & interrupt the good understanding subsisting between the two nations. You will in that case, on yourself, and Mr. Dickson¹ being clearly convinced of the absolute necessity of the measure, take the necessary steps for withdrawing the Garrison, distroying the Fort, & disposing of the Guns as before directed. taking the earliest opportunity of informing the Government of the U. States of the delimma in which you were placed.

It is of great importance that you clearly comprehend these instructions, the substance of which I recapitulate.

1st. The order of Lt. General. Sir. Gordon Drummond. must be carried into effect, if so understood, & required by the Government of the United States, provided that the thing is practicable, without committing to eminent hazard, the safety of the American Detachment, or of your own Garrison, thereby having a tendency to interrupt the harmony so recently restored.

2nd. Should the order alluded to have originated in mistake (which appears probable from the nature of the treaty) & the cession of Fort McKay not be required, or demanded

¹ Of course the news of Dickson's disgrace had not yet reached McDouall.—Ed.