

I have been obliged to make most of them out myself, which has been no easy task in my sickly state, for since my arrival here I have been at times exceedingly unwell. Mr. Pulman has not been able to give me much assistance as yet, being confined to his bed.

I found Lt. Brisbois of the Indian Department, doing the duty of overseer of works, with the pay of 5s per day granted him by Capt. Anderson, who was unable to attend to everything himself. But as Mr. Brisbois' services were wanted in his own Dept. I discontinued him from the works & appointed Bomr. Patterson to oversee the workmen with the pay of 1½ p' day. I also appointed Walsh 81 Regt. Garrison Serj. Major with the pay of 1½ P. day in consequence of his activity & attention during the voyage here, & there being a necessity for some person to drill the Troops.

If any part of the foregoing Letter should excite y.<sup>r</sup> surprise, how will that surprise be increased at what I am now going to report to you. You having mentioned to me prior to my departure from Mackinac that I was coming to a plentiful country, leads me to believe that you have been greatly misinformed respecting this place. I think it necessary to state to you in a few words the condition in which I have found it. This country, Sir, is without resources, it cannot support 20 men, much less than 60. The Inhabitants are miserably poor, ruined by the depredations of the rascally Puants & other Indians, they have now actually nothing left. Nor are there 10 head of cattle in the whole place, whereas it formerly could boast of near 400 head. The eager anxiety of Mr. Rolette to get a Garrison established here, that he might improve his fortune by it, hurried him into signing a contract which he now regrets, and is unable to fulfil. I am but too well convinced, not only from his general character, but also from his conduct here, that the motives which induced him to enter into the contract were these — he imagined if he once succeeded in getting a Garrison established here, that he would be able to dictate his own terms & price for whatever it might want & could not do without. With these views & the hope of