

have always entertained for you firmly reestablished. Accept of my sincere wishes for the removal of the indisposition that affects you at present, and of which I was only informed by your letter of this day.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

R. DICKSON,

Agent & Superintendent.

*Capt. Bulger,*

*Commanding Fort McKay*

*and on the Mississippi.*

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FROM M'DOUALL.

MICHILIMACKINAC,

16th Feby, 1815.

MY DEAR SIR:—Your Letter of the 14th Novr I must say was not calculated to afford me much satisfaction. I fear you have listened too much to the sombre representations of Mr. Dickson, who is the last man I know that I would employ in situations of trial & difficulty. It was for this reason that I selected you, long in the army, engaged in much honourable service, & of a sound judgment, in order that your energy & resolution might guard against the mischiefs of his supineness and want of management. But for this circumstance, there was no occasion for any alteration in the Garrison of Fort McKay; that gallant little band, having conducted itself with a firmness & address, which has excited general applause; overcoming their difficulty's & their enemy, by meeting them half way, and boldly looking them in the face. I knew the command to which I appointed you, to be an arduous one—perhaps nearly equal to my own; but I believed (and still believe) that it would be met with proportionate firmness & ability; "common chances, common men can bear, for when the *sea is calm*, all boats alike shew mastership in sailing." How strongly is this doctrine illustrated by the campaign on the Niagara frontier; General Real (a very gallant officer) was retiring