

chased from the Merchants in this place, and tho' the same Indians got what presents the stores of Detroit and Amherstburg could afford, they were again clothed on their return to this place by order of Mr. Dickson, from the goods sent up under mark $\frac{I^P}{M}$ for the Indians resorting to this [place] thereby causing no small degree of jealousy & discontent in the minds of the Indians in the vicinity of this Post. In addition to the fine assortment of goods sent to the Western Indians in the autumn of 1813 under mark $\frac{I^P}{I}$ the whole who accompany'd Mr. Dickson to this [place] were again clothed in June last, & thereby reducing the quantity of Presents to which the OTTAWAS and CHIPPEWAY'S here were entitled.

In the beginning of last summer a deputation of the OTTAWAS were about to proceed from here to Quebec for the purpose of laying before the Governor in Chief their grievances, & Mr. Dicksons treatment and partiality; but they were dissuaded from that intention by me.

In my opinion the commandant in his zeal to do the utmost that was possible for the Indians of the Mississippi, in his appropriation of presents last fall, for that Quarter, ordered more goods than prudence and good policy could well justify in consequence of which, the Autumn presents which used to be invariably given to the Indians of this neighbourhood, were withheld, thereby running great risk of diminishing their zeal & attachment to us, and perhaps of rendering them less ardent in repairing to our assistance when attacked by the enemy.

From my long acquaintance with the Indian Character I think it absolutely necessary that their rights should be most strictly attended to, particularly those around us, for they are the natural defenders of this Post; and to efface from their minds every idea that their interests are sacrificed to those of the Indians of the Mississippi.

JHN ASKIN.

Indorsed: "Certified—True Copy. (Signed) Jno. Radenhurst Lt. Fort Adj^d Michilimackinac."