

and who expects to be able to ascend it again as far as this place, with carts loaded with 10 thousand weight under a guard of six men.

I have had the honor to advise M. de Vaudreuil of all this, and I flatter myself that you will give all your support to an undertaking on the success of which depends perhaps the fate of our settlement.

I furnish M. Ducharme with 18 men; he proposes to engage some at the Illinois, but I foresee that it will be difficult for him to find people sufficient to convey 120 thousand weight of flour and 40 thousand weight of pork. It is on you, Sir, that I rest the confidence with which I enter on this project.

You, Sir, can easily furnish Sieur Ducharme with a detachment under the command of an officer. It will march as an escort, and the soldiers will be paid as laborers by the contractor for working in the convoy.

I have heard of one Delisle undertaking formerly to convey provisions to the Ouyatonons. I suppose, Sir, you have orders to protect him. I demand the same assistance for Sieur Ducharme, and that you will add thereto whatever will be in your power.

In laboring for the good of the service your reward and mine are assured, since we have performed our duty.

I have the honor to be, etc.,

DUMAS.

break of the American Revolution, he sympathized somewhat with the Americans and was suspected by the British of furnishing provisions to the rebels; see statement of his son, *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, iii, pp. 233, 234. In 1778 he was licensed as trader from Mackinac, and in 1780 led a party of Indians to the attack against St. Louis. He was accused in this instance of sympathy with the Americans, and with causing the expedition to miscarry. He appears to have kept his residence in Lachine, during these years of trade and hostility in the upper country, and there he died in June, 1807 (Draper MSS., 23J). He had a brother Dominique, and a cousin Laurent, both of whom were traders and voyageurs; the latter was in Mackinac during the outbreak of 1763, and afterwards had a post at Milwaukee.

Jean Marie's three sons, Joseph, Dominique, and Paul all became early residents of Wisconsin.—ED.