

are enabled with Ease to transport their Merchandise into the interior Parts of the King's Territory to the North of the Mississippi, and to the Western Lakes; while even the extra Provincial Canadians, in the neighbourhood of our Posts, particularly at Detroit, and those scattered about the Country, rather buy the Goods that come from New Orleans, tho' at a higher Price, than submit to the great Restraints on Trade at our Posts.

I shall easily find in the Troops here many Officers and Men very ready to undertake to explore any Part of this Continent, who require no other encouragement than to be told such service will be acceptable to the King, and if properly executed will recommend them to his Favour; but as they are unacquainted with the Country, the Indian Language and Manners, 'tis necessary to join with them some Canadians, to serve as Guides and Interpreters. The Gentlemen here are mostly poor and have families, in Order to induce them to attach themselves thoroughly to the King's interests 'tis necessary they should be assured of their being taken into His Service for Life, and in case they perish on these Expeditions, that their Widows will enjoy their Pay, to support and educate their Children.

Should His Majesty think proper to allow the Traders to go up to the Western Lakes, as formerly, I think a Party might winter in one of those Posts, set out early in Spring for the Pacific Ocean, find out a good Port, take its Latitude, Longitude, and describe it so accurately as to enable our Ships from the East Indies to find it out with ease, and then return the year following; Your Lordship will readily perceive the advantage of such Discoveries, and how difficult attempts to explore unknown Parts must prove to the English, unless we avail ourselves of the knowledge of the Canadians, who are well acquainted with the Country, the Language and Manners of the Natives.

Your Lordship has likewise herewith inclosed the observation of the Traders here on Sir William Johnson's Regulations, to-