

Peé,<sup>5</sup> and work with him for the good of the service in Accordance with the orders he has received from me.<sup>6</sup>

AT. S. DE PEYSTER.

Given at FORT MICHILIMAKINAC, the 1st of July, 1779.

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<sup>5</sup> An abbreviation for Peoria, for which see *ante*, p. 177, note 18. De Peyster speaks in later letters of a fort at this place, but it appears to have been merely a trading centre.—Ed.

<sup>6</sup> This expedition, raised by De Peyster under the command of Langlade and Bennett, was sent out to oppose Clark's projected expedition against Detroit. The latter was to rendezvous at Vincennes, and move up the Wabash; but Col. John Bowman's promised reinforcements from Kentucky being diverted into an enterprise against the Shawnee Indians, and insufficient troops having arrived from Virginia, Clark reluctantly decided that it would be prudent to abandon his project. Meanwhile Godefroy de Linctot had enrolled forty mounted volunteers at Cahokia, to ascend the Illinois to Peoria, cross thence to Ouiatanon, and join Clark in his advance. Linctot successfully accomplished his mission, and by August was at the latter place, with a large concourse of Indians (said to have been 6,000). He sent a messenger to Vincennes for reinforcements, with which he hoped to take St. Josephs. Major Busseron and Capt. James Shelby were detached to his assistance, and reached Ouiatanon by August 24. A party of English, doubtless that of Bennett and Langlade, coming against them, were turned back by Indians, and the garrison at St. Josephs was obliged to abandon that fort, because of native hostility. No presents being forthcoming for the Indian allies, however, they began to fall off, and by October Shelby was again in Vincennes, and the expedition was unproductive of results. This account is derived from the original papers of Clark in the Wisconsin Historical Library—Draper MSS., 49J; see also *Mich. Pion. and Hist. Colls.*, xix, pp. 455, 467.—Ed.