

the enemy, both Canadians and Indians grew homesick, and desired to come back, that seeing the Indians were filing off fast he was obliged to leave St. Joseph's the 14th instant. Some pottawatamies came to Mr. Bennett to apologise for the behaviour of their nation.

Two young chiefs are just arrived, and say that they have scouted as far as the Ouiat, but heard of no Rebels on their March, that there were few at the Ouiat, and did not exceed three hundred at the Isle aux Noir [Illinois] Virginians and as many Creoles, which was told them (near the Ouiat) by Indians who had lately been at Fort Charters. When Mr. Bennet arrives I shall be able to give a more particular account of this *Decouvert*. The Indians say that the noise of their movement deterred the Rebels from advancing, I could wish however that themselves had advanced a little farther. I am in hopes this fall that Mr. Sinclair will be able to collect some corn, as there are so few Traders here, but when Trade flourishes, this place is obliged to have recourse to Detroit.

I have the honor to be &c

A. S. DE PEYSTER.

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[Letter from De Peyster to Haldimand, inclosing Lieutenant Bennett's report. Source, same as preceding document, but pp. 394-397.]

MICHILIMACKINAC 4th September 1779.

SIR—I have the honor to acquaint your Excellency that Lieut. Bennett is returned from St. Joseph's. The enclosed paper is a Journal of his *Decouverté*, which I have thought best to transmit for your information.

I have to observe that the provisions from hence arrived at the river St. Joseph's at the time fixed, so that nothing could be wanting from this Quarter to have enabled him to derive every advantage from his Journey thither, and had the enemy advanced, I am persuaded, that no officer of his Rank would have acquitted himself with more honor.

I yesterday had a Council with the Ottawas, and have made