

them most heartily ashamed of their impatience. I have the honor to be &c.

A. S. DE PEYSTER.

Lieut. Bennett's Report.

MICHLIMACKINAC, Sept. 1st 1779.

SIR—In pursuance to your orders I took post at St. Joseph's on the twenty third day of July before the Potawatimies were assembled. I threw up an entrenchment sufficient to oppose a superior number of savages, in case their intention should be to insult or surprize us.

The Potawatamies of St. Joseph's, of the Petit Coeur de Cerf, and the Terre Coupée⁹⁷ were ye first who visited us. they declared their Intentions to be to assist us in every thing, that lay in their powers, and promised that they would always look upon the enemies of their Father the King of England as theirs.

I, as soon as possible, sent out parties of the Ottawas and Chippewas with some of the Potawatamies and Volunteers to the Pee, the Ouia, and the Miamis to endeavour to get some intelligence of the Enemy, and if possible to bring Prisoners or to distress them in any other manner they might think most eligible.

The Party ordered to the Pee returned back in two days to all appearance frightened by the threat and persuasions of some of the Potawatamies they met on the road.

The Detachment to the Ouia in five or six days also returned much in the same situation, and at the same time informed me that there was but a few Canadians (residents) at the place and no appearance of an Enemy in that Quarter.

Nothing extraordinary from the Miamis.

Three days after my arrival at St. Joseph's, I also sent an Express to Captain Lernoult informing him of the Disposition

⁹⁷ Three Potawatomi villages. The first was situated near the fort, probably on the west side of the river; the last on what is now known as Terre Coupée prairie, in the northwestern corner of the present St. Joseph County, Ind.—Ed.