

may even support them with the expedition in case as I have said the English governor withdraws his troops from Baxo Canada to oppose the French in Alto Canada.

The forces which may be employed, if any, in these expeditions referred to, must not exceed two hundred men divided between regular troops and militia. It is understood that of the first, that is, of the regular troops, no more than forty men are to be withdrawn, whose function will be particularly the serving of the artillery, provided there may be employed in the expedition some light pieces, the effect of which will be very useful with the savages. Of the militia as many as two hundred of the most loyal and courageous may be chosen for each expedition. They may be promised a part of the booty in case any of consequence is taken. The same promise may be made to volunteers who may be willing to serve on the expedition without pay. The others shall enjoy the accustomed pay as long as they may be employed, and shall receive a daily ration. If the complement of the regular regiment is made up, and if His Majesty determines that the body of the tribes in the province may be taken out of it, the garrison of San Luis will be reinforced to put it in a better condition to disturb the English and above all to destroy their trade to the north of the Misuri.

1797: ARRANGEMENTS FOR BOUNDARY COMMISSIONERS

[Letter from James McGill to Herman Witsins Ryland. Reprinted from *Mich. Pion. and Hist. Colls.*, xxv, pp. 137-139.]

MONTREAL, 7th February 1797.

SIR—On the 30th Ultimo I had the Honor of acknowledging receipt of Your Letter of the 26th. desiring by request of General Prescott⁷⁴ that I would give my opinion “Where it would

⁷⁴ Gen. Robert Prescott (1725-1816) entered the army in 1755, and through successive ranks rose to be general in 1798. He served under