

of St. Anthony, because there is plenty of large game to be met with to supply the Party with Provisions during the Fall and through the Winter, an object of great moment, for were it necessary to carry Provisions for 12 or 15 months which may be the time necessary to compleat the Survey, three canoes would not be sufficient.

Along with the Party I would recommend a few Hunters to be got from among the Ottawas of Michilimackinac to accompany and reside with them, not only as a proper measure to guard against scarcity but as of use also to insure the good will of the Indians of the Country.

But as a previous and indispensable step I would advise that Belts be sent to the two great and Rival Nations the Scioux and Chippewas inviting them to Michilimackinac or St. Joseph's Island in the Spring of 1798 or in the Spring of the year when the Commissioners are to proceed, there to inform them of the intended Survey and of the Peace which now subsists between Us and the United States.

I have the honor to be Sir Y. M. O. & V. H. S.

JAMES MCGILL

Herman Witsins Ryland, Esqr.

1797: RAID ON THE MISSISSIPPI

[Extract from a letter of Thomas Duggan⁷⁶ to Joseph Chew, dated St. Joseph, July 9, 1797. Source, same as preceding document, but vol. xx, pp. 522, 523.]

Your apprehensions were very well grounded with respect to our Indian Friends not having a favorable opinion of us at the

⁷⁶ Thomas Duggan was storekeeper of Indian goods at Detroit, 1792-95. In the latter year he was sent in the same capacity to Mackinac; and after the British evacuation of that post removed to St. Joseph's Island, where he retained his official position until his death (Dec. 19, 1803).—Ed.