

[Source, same as preceding document, but 12B46.]

G. Bay 14 Oct. 1822

DEAR SIR—Please Send me your last years Licence So that I may Copy it off to give to Capt. Whistler as his Clerk is so busy that he has no time to make them out. & I will take him it to morrow morning to get Signed & at the same time he will be making out the Bonds Your truly

J. LAWE

Mr. L. Grignon Present.

1822: FUR-TRADERS' TRANSPORTATION

[Source, same as preceding document, but 12B18. Translated from the French.]

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN 19 Sept 1822

SIR AND FRIEND—You will receive this by the barges that I send to get the rest of the pieces that are in your Warehouse. I sent you also 23 Packs that I beg you to forward to Mr. Robert Stewart by the first opportunity. I have written Mr. Whitney to procure for the men the following provisions, 3 barrels of flour, 1 barrel of pork and six minots of peas, thinking that he is able to procure these at a cheaper rate than you. If he cannot I must beg you to procure them, as well as four pairs of childrens shoes leather or morocco according to the enclosed measure, a womans Crochet hook at the Sutler's, some Ink and four livres of good Tobacco. I send you by Leon Ponceville \$18.00 for this purchase. Fifty canoes of folle avoine [Menominee] arrived here today, so it is reported. I do not know whether it is true. the greater part go down the Missisipi.

No other news except that the opposition is very strong having furnished \$72,000 worth of merchandise to the Savages I am your Servant

JOS ROLETTE

N. B. Please send the two clearances as well as the list of men who have worked that I may pay them.

Mr. Jacques Porlier Senr. Bay verte.

1822: WINTERING ARRANGEMENTS

[Source, same as preceding document, but 12B93. Translated from the French]¹⁵.

SIR—I had thought of going to Makina but the O B Company Continuing, I find myself relieved. I am bound to winter here in the capacity of a clerk without Wages, and a little against my interests, to say nothing of those of the Company. The changes in the Company have brought about difficulties that are not yet all defined. Mr. Rouse and Monsieur Aug. Grignon have left for the Misissippi; As it appears that it is they that you have designed therefor. Mr. L. Grignon returns to the Wisconsin on the Same recommendation. Mr. Lawe remains here, also designated. Whether it is in Conformity with your ideas or not, my offers to go and winter have been badly received. I do not complain of that, once embarked one must go to the harbor. I do not know how I stand with you? I should be much pleased to receive your Accounts! not that I have any hope of paying them, and it is without doubt due to compassion in you that you do not press me by sending them to me. I wish that Charity might extend to releasing them. I expect on the first, the Barges of Mr. Rolette by which I may have conveyed the letters that you have addressed to me, Not being able to do better.

The gentleman that you have referred to me secured a passage with Mr. Rouse, with which he seemed well satisfied. I communicated your recommendation to Mr. Rouse who will be pleased to honor it.

I have just learned through Mr. Stuart that Mr. Crooks has been obliged to leave Makina in order to re-establish his health. I fear that he has waited too long, the extraordinary fatigues that he has endured in his long Journeys have of necessity

¹⁵ This letter is not dated, but from internal evidence we judge that it belongs to the early autumn of 1822, and the arrangements indicated are for that year.—Ed.

worn upon his strength, and he ought to repair it by prompt rest and great care. If you have occasion to write, assure him of my best wishes for the establishment of his Health.

I do not say anything to you of the Company. I leave that to those who are conducting it. I only observe to you that if Hunting is Poor, or to speak more accurately, if there is no tranquility in the Misissippi, it is probable that we shall make very bad returns, for the Savages of this neighborhood are entirely lost through Whiskey. The Wisconsin is poor, and the best Savages of those parts, seek the Misissippi.

We expect here by the first boats an opposition caused by your house. Mr. Robert Irwin is Agent therefor. Such are his plans! He will not leave any advantage so they say, because of the low price at which he can sell. We have here several newcomers who have traded with the puants [Winnebago] and one party of the folles [Menominee] for the division of their lands. The ancient dwellers have been invited in the name of the Government to take part in a treaty, promises and threats have been put forth, so I am told.¹⁰ Some say that it is the result of the Connection of Mr. Pierre Grignon with the Minister Williams.¹¹ It may be so although I Compare it to the difficulty of the Government in giving us the titles to our possessions. I augur ill therefrom and I consider it as a labyrinth from which I find no way out, without sacrificing everything.

Sir I have Written you a very long letter about a few things

¹⁰ This refers to the second treaty made in 1822 by the Menominee with the New York Indians. See *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, ii, pp. 423-429; viii, pp. 337, 338.—Ed.

¹¹ This is Eleazer Williams, the so-called "lost dauphin" of France. Much has appeared concerning him in previous volumes of the *Collections*. See *Id.*, xiv, p. 400, note and references therein cited; also *Id.*, ii, *passim*; vii, pp. 322-369. Williams's claims to the dauphinship are proved false by William W. Wight, "Eleazer Williams—his forerunners, himself," in *Parkman Club Papers*, i, pp. 133-203. For the relation between Pierre Grignon and Williams, see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, vii, pp. 242, 243.—Ed.

that may interest you. I would not permit myself to do so in the time of your occupation, but as I believe you are on a vacation, I think you may find this not troublesome. Receive the testimony of my consideration, and believe me with honor
Your very humble & obedient Servant

JQ. PORLIER

Endorsed: Agent for the A. F. C.

1822: DISPOSAL OF FACTORY GOODS

[MS. in Pension Building, Washington. Pressmark: Indian Office Book 161, Letter Book 4.]

DETROIT, Oct. 4. 1822

George Graham

SIR—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 13 Ulto. and 18th. Ulto., together with their several enclosures.

It is hopeless to tender to the Indians goods in lieu of the specie annuities which are due to them. The attempt has been made here and elsewhere, and has uniformly proved unsuccessful. The treaty stipulations on this subject, so far as they are within my personal knowledge, were formed at the particular request of the Indians, and I think they will inflexibly adhere to them. Various causes combine to produce this determination.

1. The opinion, which has been generally entertained that the goods in the U. S. factories are inferior to those sold by the private traders.

2d. All those, who are in immediate contact with the Indians, are in a greater or less degree interested in the prosecution of the Indian Trade. The influence of these persons will of course [be] exerted to prevent the recurrence of a system, which would diminish the expenditures of the Indians.

3d. To the larger Tribes, such as the Potawatomes, the Chippewas and Ottawas the sums paid as annuities are entirely