

Indian Department
 Drummond Island 6th October 1823

Sir,

I have the honor to report to you that the smallpox having been brought by some Canadians from Montreal to this place, and tho' every means were used to persuade the Indians to retire from the Post for some time, the disease got a-mongst them which, in the short space of about a fortnight, carried off six men, eight women and one Boy. - These were principally old People, of drunken habits and had obstinately refused to be vaccinated.

It was at our time apprehended to be of a more serious nature than the smallpox, the patients dying after two or three days illness, and in close succession and, their bodies are covered with black spots, created an alarm, and it was thought pro-

To, The Honble. Col. Claus
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