

FROM JOHN HECKENWELDER TO JOHN ASKIN

River Huron Jan^{ry} y^e 7th 1786

Dear Sir, I find myself yet in want of Bags for Your Corn having filled all what I have. I cannot just now exactly tell the Number I have, untill I shall have removed them, but all the Debts are collected, and have upwards of 700 Bush. sewed up. But I am to recieve some more Corn from M^r Zeisberger¹ and others, for which Money is expected. Indeed I have recieved of an Indian to the Value of £5 in Corn which is not paid yet. The Money is to pay a Debt which was owing to Justice Williams; perhaps You know a way to settle that. I judge there will be about 70 or 80 Bush. of Corn for which hard Money is wanted. I am no ways forward in assisting any body in demanding Money, but on the contrary try all means to put it off[f], yet some have no ocasion for any thing else, and repeat the Bargain which was made, of which I cannot deny. I therfore hope evry one will be served to his Sattisfaction. If You please to send me by Nathan Lewis² the bearer of this one piece of Scotch Sheeting more I think that will serve me, and if I should find that I should not want it all, I would not cut it up, but return the remainder in the Spring. I have about 3 Bush. of Sweet Corn for You to[o], which I purchased at the price You told me. Lewis will fetch me the Sheeting up to my House in his Carryall, but perhaps You would want the Sweet Corn immediately, and would chuse to send a

¹ David Zeisberger was born in Moravia, April 11, 1721. In 1736 his parents came to America, locating in the then new colony of Georgia, whither David (who had been left behind in school) presently followed. In 1740 he arrived at Bethlehem, the chief center of Moravian influence in America. His missionary activities, to which he was to devote the major portion of his life, began in 1744 with a journey to Onondaga, the capital of the Iroquois confederacy. A large part of his labor was devoted to the Delaware tribe, much of the time in Ohio, and four years (1782-86) in Michigan. The later years of his life were spent at Goshen, a settlement founded by him in the Tuscarawas Valley. He died, Nov. 17, 1808. Information adapted from the historical introduction to his *Diary* (Eugene F. Bliss, ed., Cincinnati, 1885).

² Nathaniel Lewis was a private in Butler's Rangers who located at Detroit at the close of the Revolution. In 1788 his name was included by Major R. Mathews in the list of allotments of land on the north side of Lake Erie to disbanded troops.