

desired to be back early in the Morning. By whom I must beg you will signify your intentions sending me back the plan, with them. please Sir to send word to M^{rs} Fry that I am very well. I am Sir with my Respects to your family

Your most obed^t Servant
Phil. R. Fry¹⁶

Mr. Askin.

FROM JOHN ASKIN TO FRANCIS VIGO

Detroit march 15th 1786

Dear Sir Your Obliging Letter of the 16th Jan^y last came to hand two days ago and it affords me much Satisfaction to know that you are well & that we will have the pleasure of Seeing you next spring here. you will before this time have Rec^d a Letter from the C^o¹⁷ with whom I'm now connected in the Indian Trade also one from myself to both which I Refer you for matters of Trade. Racoons & Beaver bore the best prices last year as to Skins If they do not Rise in Value we will be all Ruined. I have a very favourable Oppinion of Moris Bazadoning[?] therefore hope payment from him this year & that the [he] will take his new Supplies from our C^o at the miamis. I'm under many great Obligations to you for the paines you take in Collecting whats due me & I beg a Continuance of your Friendship. M^r Barthes death¹⁸ which happened yesterday morning after a Sickness of about a month has thrown the Family into Grief and in part prevents my writing more for the present. Please give my Compliments to M^r Crofton & lett him know that his mother is very well. I have nothing

¹⁶ Phillip R. Fry, ensign in the Eighth Regiment, who was stationed at Detroit for several years. In Sept., 1782, he was appointed naval storekeeper. In 1785 he surveyed the lands allotted to loyalists and officials of the British Indian Department at New Settlement on Lake Erie. His survey of the Moravian settlement on Huron River, here described, is noted in Zeisberger's *Diary*, I, 261-62. Fry was a son of Colonel Hendrick Frey of the Mohawk Valley, who had fought in the Seven Years' War and who remained a loyalist in the Revolution. Information adapted from *Mich. Pio. Colls., passim*, and *Buffalo Hist. Soc. Pubs.*, V, 86.

¹⁷ The Miamis Company, for which see *post*, 274.

¹⁸ Charles Andrew Barthe, Askin's father-in-law, for whom see *ante*, 34.