

McLeane⁶ Advised & assisted s^d Weston to make his Escape to the Colonies & since took Possession of his Lands & Even did not divide the Crop with s^d Buttler as was agreed on between him & Weston Detroit Jan^y the 14th 1792.

Endorsed: Detroit Jan^y 14th 1792 Complaint of Edward Buttler Agns^t Jn^o McLeane relative to Westons going Away.

INDEBTEDNESS OF JOHN ASKIN

Montreal 24 January 1792

Dear Sir The House has wrote you this day handing acc^{ts} Current from which it appears that the Balance will be on the 10th of April next £20217 exclusive of any Rum you may have taken to account. Sensible that the Interest of so large a Balance must for ever keep you back & whatever the sum may be which you shall finally fall short being to revert against the late firm of Todd & McGill I wish much to put matters on such footing after the 10th of April as may give you a fair chance of unburthening yourself, more especially as our present House is to be somewhat altered by the introduction of my Brother Andrew⁷ as a Partner; and as the House are to benefit by the transactions they are to have with you it is but just they should run the risk of any eventual loss or disappointment, without the guarantee of Todd & McGill as has hitherto been the Case.

In order to Effect these purposes I propose that you shall pay off so much of your account next Season as will leave the balance £15000 net and this Sum I shall withdraw from the Books of the present concern altogether giving you five years without Interest reserving only to go towards payment of it annuallly so much as you may remitt more

⁶ John McLean was a loyalist, who received a grant of land on the north side of Lake Erie below Amherstburg in 1787. See Essex Hist. Soc., *Papers and Addresses*, III, 72.

⁷ Andrew McGill, younger brother of James, was actively engaged in the North-west trade. Prior to this reorganization he had been operating in partnership with John McGill. He died, August 1, 1805, aged forty-nine years. See *Can. Archives Report*, 1889, xvii.