

be that as it may a representation signed by our House & by Frobishers & Forsyths was delivered Governor Simcoe & sent to M<sup>r</sup> Hammond,<sup>9</sup> Minister at Congress from Great Britain pointing out some incongruities in the Treaty of Peace which if properly used at this juncture may have some Effect towards obtaining anew line.

I beg my sincerest respects to M<sup>rs</sup> Askin & your family in which I am joined by M<sup>rs</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Gill & believe me ever Dear Askin Your affectionate Friend

James M<sup>c</sup>Gill

*Endorsed:* Montreal Jan<sup>y</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1792 M<sup>r</sup> James M<sup>c</sup>Gill to Jn<sup>o</sup> Askin recv<sup>d</sup> & Answ<sup>d</sup> the 22<sup>d</sup> April 1792

[At bottom of first page] John Askin Esq<sup>r</sup> Rec<sup>d</sup> March 18<sup>th</sup> Private

FROM DAVID MEREDITH TO JOHN ASKIN

Woolwich March 20<sup>h</sup> 1792

My dear Sir, M<sup>rs</sup> Meredith intending writing fully to Yourself, and her Mother; I can have little to say only the pleasure of acknowledging Your letter which enclosed a Bill from M<sup>r</sup> Fraser, the which I thank you having noticed; but as the House of Leith and Shepherd furnished me my Wine and regulary charged me with it, I could not conceive there was any account left; nor can I possibly recollect; assisted with my Servants Memory, the having at any time had more than One Gallon of M<sup>r</sup> Fraser's Wine, the which is accounted for in my Expence Book, paid to Leith & Shepherd in their own Statement: it appears odd therefore

<sup>9</sup> George Hammond was born in 1763 and at the age of twenty, while still an undergraduate at college, entered the diplomatic service in the capacity of secretary to David Hartley, who was representing the British government in the peace negotiations at Paris with France and the American colonies. Hammond was sent to Philadelphia in 1791 as the first minister from Great Britain to the United States. He remained here until 1795, and although his service was marked by much dissension, he retained the confidence of his superiors and returned to England to assume the office of under secretary for foreign affairs. Until his retirement from public life in 1828 he continued to play a prominent rôle in British diplomacy and politics. While in America he married, in 1793, Margaret Allen of Philadelphia. He died in London, April 23, 1853. Much of his correspondence while minister to the United States is printed in *Amer. State Papers, Foreign Affairs*. See *Dict. of Nat. Biog.*