

may be little or none. I know this Information is Needless to you my meaning for troubling you with it is that it may in case of Necessity Serve as Reasons to be Advanced by you & my Other Fri[e]nds to the Governor why he should not be put Over me In the Militia in Case any Such thing was Intended. I have no Wish nor desire to be Advanced Over Any deserving man whoes right is better than mine. nor will I Ever Suffer any person whoes pretentions are not greater to be put Over me without Showing that Resentm^t Every man of Spirit in my Oppinion Shouled. you know I Serve my King & Country chearfully in the Small Matters Committed to my Charge without Asking or Seeking for other reward than being treated by Govern^t with that Attention I hope my Character Merits. I Neither dislike M^{rs} B nor Any of her Family, I Only mean to Oppose the Ambition of her Sons where their Intentions are to Rule over me, & to your kindness & that of my Other Friends Round his Excellency I give the Charge of preventing them & beg you will make my Sentiments on this Head known to such of you[r] & my Acquaintances as may be Necessary, time not permitting me to write M^r Hamilton & Others on this Subject

[John Askin]³⁶

FROM DAVID W. SMITH TO JOHN ASKIN

Niagara. 24 Sep^r 92.

My dear friend, Altho I have little news to send you yet I cannot let the Chippeway return without writing you a few lines. Your Petition from the Merchants has been handed to the Governor; M^r Macomb³⁷ & I cannot yet answer the Merchants Letter formally; when we are certain as to the result ye shall hear; I fear however from the Silence observed on the occasion of the Memorial, that

³⁶ Unsigned and unaddressed, but evidently the rough draft of a letter written by John Askin to D. W. Smith.

³⁷ William Macomb, member of the first Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada, for whom see *ante*, 108.