

that I shall spend the winter with her. It would be a disappointment to her if I went up but I hope to return to Detroit early in the spring. I know that you are interested in my happiness so I shall tell you that this place is much gayer now than it was. I have no expectation of having cariole parties like those I had last winter at Springwells, for there is scarcely any snow here, but I may have the pleasure of talking about them with the ladies of the 5th. I assure you they regret leaving Detroit. The family of Major Smith⁴³ assures you constantly of their remembrance. They were much disappointed after what you promised. He asks me sometimes: "Well, Madelaine, do you think your father will come down?" I tell him I dare not give myself that pleasure, for I understand Mama, and the anxiety that would cause her.

My affectionate remembrance to Mama and to all the children whom I kiss from my very heart. I hope that the good God will favor you with a pleasant winter and good health, the wishes of

Your loving daughter
Madelaine⁴⁴

Kitty assures you of her love as also Mama. Mr. Grant is well. I have not seen him for some days but Mr. Hamilton spoke to him this morning. He has gone to Major Smith's.

⁴³ Major John Smith, father of David W. Smith, for whom see *ante*, 407. He entered the British army in 1755, was commissioned lieutenant in 1768, and served in America during the Revolutionary War. In March, 1783, he was commissioned major, and in 1787 was attached to the Fifth Regiment. From 1790 to 1792 he was stationed at Detroit as commandant, and from 1792 until his death in 1795 he commanded Fort Niagara. Before his death he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel of the regiment. See *Simcoe Papers, passim*; British army registers; and *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XXIV, *passim*.

⁴⁴ Madelaine Askin, second daughter of John Askin and his Indian consort. At the home of Robert Hamilton, Madelaine became acquainted with Dr. Robert Richardson, a surgeon in the Queen's Rangers, and the couple was married there, Jan. 24, 1793. Dr. Richardson was a native of Scotland, who had come to Upper Canada in 1792 as assistant surgeon in the Rangers. Until 1802 he was stationed with his regiment at Queenston, Toronto, and St. Joseph Island. Because of the impracticability of accompanying her husband to the two latter stations mentioned, Mrs. Richardson made her home, first at Queenston and subsequently with her parents at Detroit. In 1802 the Rangers were disbanded, and such as desired were sent back to England. Dr. Richardson, however, secured the post of surgeon to the garrison at Amherstburg, and remained in Canada. In 1802 he was appointed judge of the District Court for the Western District, which office he held until his death in 1832.