

I have the pleasure of saying that your family were all well a few days ago. I wish you health & happiness & remain

Dear Sir, Your Most obed<sup>t</sup> Humble servant

John Askin

P. S. Salt is now worth about 2/ the lb., a great deal of that article remained on the communication. Don't part with Indian corn, on the contrary purchase what you can, towards Sandusky perhaps some could be got, it has not for cash been higher than 8/ here but there appears little or none for sale.

Peltries greatly fallen, minks from 2/ to 2/8 here & I believe not so much below.

Tho<sup>s</sup> Smith, Esq. Foot of the rapids.

#### POLITICAL ACTIVITIES IN LOWER CANADA

Quebec 20 January 1793

Dear Askin I was favoured whilst at Montreal with your esteemed Letter of the 2<sup>d</sup> of November and as there will probably be no other opportunity of addressing you than this express untill the Spring I cannot let it pass without dropping you a few lines in return. your partiality to me I have long known and if I can discharge the duties of the public employments I have been raised to equal to your wishes I shall not be apprehensive of forfeiting the good opinion which others have the goodness to entertain of me. I can answer for my heart but the Head may be wrong at times.

Our Legislature met on the 17<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup> and as you will no doubt see our newspapers I need not take up your time with repeating the Governors Speech, the addresses of the two Houses &<sup>e</sup> but referr you for them to the Gazettes.

Hitherto our time has been taken up in framing Rules for proceeding to business so that no Law has yet been brought forward and we have a point to discuss which I fear will set us at variance for the Canadian Members will have all civil Laws passed in the French Language & only a translation of them in English. you will readily suppose that no Englishman can agree that a small Province shall treat the mother