

Characters. That no Traffic should be carried on but in Stockaded Trading Forts nor less than Twenty four men Exclusive of the Trader & his Interpreters in Each Fort, which men should take the Oath of Allegiance & by their Agreement be Obligated to Mount Guards & do Duty as Soldiers so far as Necessary for the Preservation of the lives & property of the People in it. That these Men should be Commanded by a Person of Fidelity & Prudence Approved of by the Commanding Officer.

I beg your Excellency will Excuse my want of method in conveying my Ideas & Suffer me to say that I have no wish so much at Heart as that of promototing the wellfair of his Majesty's Gover[n]ment Under your directions & should it Please your Excellency to Enact any Laws for the regulation of the Trade on the Frontier and that any Information I'm possessed of would 'on that Occation be Necessary, I will with Much Chearfulness go to Niagara for that purpose and Always think myself greatly Honored in Executing your Commands.

I am with Great Submission Your Excellencys Most Obedient very Humble Servant

Detroit February the 22^d 1793

Governor Simcoe

Endorsed: Coppy Detroit Feb 22^d 1793 John Askin to Lieu^t Governor Simcoe

FROM THOMAS SMITH TO JOHN ASKIN

say April

Foot Rapids 3 March 1793

Dear Sir M^r Norton sets off for Detroit tomorrow morning according to your desire. he will deliver you an Inventory of the Goods Peltries &c and also an exact account of his transactions between the 17th of January and the 12th of March.

As M^r Norton is acquainted with Lafond and some of the Mohawks I think he would be a proper person to be sent to upper Sandusky so soon as it may be convenient to you, in order to look after your property in that quarter, which