

Letter to Mr D^d Robertson & me dated y^e 19 November last & can never sufficiently thank you for your Friendly attachment to me & mine. I have great hopes that the part I hold in furnishing Provisions for this post & that of Michlimakinac will bring about a favourable change in my Affairs which is much wanted for I have Even been more disappointed this year than heretofore, was it possible to get Honest men as many as I should want into my Service and they Execute my plans as I direct them I'm certain I would Yearly make Money & in the end if God preserved me get clear of the greatest burden, but Except what is conducted under my own Inspection (Generally Speaking) all goes Rong & had I even health to Voyage in my Absence its likely matters would not go on well here, and my share of the Trade of this post is too Inconsiderable to make much unless I had a Store like that of Mr Robertsons which Requires a large Caputal. Your Nephew Andrew is to be here in Aug^t next at which I'm perticularly happy as I have Formed a plann which I will communicate to him to be mentioned to Mr M^cGill below & if it meets with his & your Approbation I will put it in Execution. The Outlines is to take my Son John into partnership with me for Ten Years, allowing him a third of y^e Profits, each to Maintain their famalies Separately, whats taken from Store for the use of either to be Replaced the year following with an Allowance of 6 p^r C^t. my Houses Lands Cattle &c to Remain to myself & the partnership to continue if Even any accident happened to me, but not so if any happened to him. The advantages I foresee would be a greater Security to you in the first place, next having an Interested Person to Visit frequently those who are Trading out is Absolutely Necessary & my hea[l]th will not permit me to do it. In the third place a Security in Case I should fall sick or any Accident happened to me that the Bussiness would not meet with any Interruption nor your property be less Secure, there is many other Advantages in my Oppinion would arise from this Connection which cannot be Inserted here. John is perfectly Sober, honest, Industrious & Saving & now