

public scaffolds upwards of 50,000 of his subjects & destroying five times that number in the field, did he conquer the Seven United Provinces? Did Great Britain, after a struggle of ten years, & the loss of two or three hundred thousand lives, & an expence of 150 million of money conquer America?

In the mean time trade & commerce droop. everything goes cross [?]. Furs are really in a most lamentable predicament, as to saying what they may be worth I cannot say. as long as the war continues they will continue to fall, and what is very unpleasant, I much fear we shall soon have difficulties with the Americans about the posts: there have several thing occurred of late that leads me to this conclusion: I wish I may be mistaken. Lord Cornwallis is returned from the east Indies. we have taken Pondicherry & driven the French out of that country. The duke of York is come home, but whether recalled or not has not transpired.

W. R

Addressed: (pr. the Ellice to New York) John Askin, Esq^r Detroit Care of Mess^{rs} Todd, McGill & C^o Merchants Montreal

Endorsed: London Feb^y 10th 1794 M^r W. Robertson to Jn^o Askin recv^d y^e 8^h July Answ^d y^e 14th

FROM ARCHANGE MEREDITH TO JOHN ASKIN

Woolwich March 26th 1794

My dear Father Having wrote a very long letter to my good Mother which you are to consider in part to yourself leaves me but little to say but I could not with pleasure close my intended Packet without addressing a few lines to so dear a Parent. to recapitulate all that I have said in my Mothers letter concerning the children and the happiness of *mon petit menage* would be a sameness but as I can never lack subject when conversing with *mon cher Pere* I shall therefore dash on *sans ceremonie* and commit to paper whatever presents itself to my imagination hoping that it will prove acceptable to my dear Father. *Permettez moi de vous demander combien de Veaus ma Vache a eu depuis que*