

can dispose of them here. I dont know yet if I will Stay in this Country or not therefore must get in my Old Debts and make no more [new] ones. You must try & get payment from M^r Clark at Swan Creek³⁷ in money or some thing. Charge him Interest as every one does Who dont get Paid Yearly it is in Vain to say he will Pay me here I'm sure he never Will. Please let me know what You Propose doing when your time is out, its proper for me to know before, I'm well pleased with your Conduct & will Either furnish you for your own a/c or take a share with you.

I'm Dear Sir Yours

(Signed) John Askin

M^r John Anderson F^t Miamis

Endorsed: Detroit Nov^r the 4th 95 John Askin To John Anderson Copy

SCARCITY OF RUM FOR NORTHWEST TRADE

Montreal 7th Nov^r 1795

Dear Askin I wrote you some time past but as I dont keep copys of Letters to my friends I cant say the date, the House wrote you the other day on business and as there is some Rum got to Quebec tho not sufficient for the Consumption of this place for the Winter the price at Quebec 10/6 Curr^y yet we will keep some to forward to Michilam^e in the Spring by Canoes or boats and as the quantity [sent] you to Detroit is small the price there may be 5 Dollars pr Gall. or indeed any price you please in which case the House has wrote you that you may take or sell 12 barrels of the Rum sent to your Care for And^w Todd at 20 Livers pr Gall. the other 8 barrels to be forwarded to Michilam^e by first Vessel in the Spring and if an opportunity this Winter please write A. Todds agent there I believe a M^r Schendler,³⁸ the quantity you intend sending I hope you

³⁷ Swan Creek empties into the Maumee just above Toledo, in Lucas County, Ohio.

³⁸ George Schindler was engaged in the Indian trade, with headquarters at Mackinac, during the later years of the eighteenth century and the early years of the nineteenth. We have not learned when he came to Mackinac or what his earlier history may have been. He married Therese Marcot, daughter of Jean Baptiste Marcot and