

likelihood you will have a twelfth before you die.³⁴ M^{rs} Askin joins me in best Compliments to M^{rs} Hay.

P.S. I must beg your interest about getting what things of mine which may arrive at Detroit forwarded in the Kings Vessel for this place.

FROM JOHN ASKIN TO NATHANIEL DAY AT MONTREAL,
MAY 8, 1778

The last time I had the honour of writing you was the 21st of Oct^r 1777 acknowledging the receipt of the Barrack Bedding, furniture & mold Candles you sent me, since which I have had no opportunity untill now of sending you the Barrack Accounts between June & Dec^r, they accompany this letter. You'll see in them a wastage of 34 lb^s of Candles on a Quantity I was obliged to have run over anew for the Guard, indeed they would not receive them as they were, worse I never have seen, & I imagine those you ordered to buy them were deceived, for I do assure you there was in some of the boxes a few good on the top & the remainder very bad.

You'll see by the acc^{ts} that there is a Ballance of £61..12..4 N.Y. Cur^y due me which I will draw on you for by some other opportunity.

The last acc^{ts} I have had from Mess^{rs} Todd & M^cGill still mention that they have not yet received payment for what was due me by Gen^l Robertson,³⁵ this is realy a great hardship on me, to have advanced my own money here so long

³⁴ Hay's wife was Marie Julie Réaume, born at Detroit, January 22, 1748, and buried there, March 23, 1795. The exact date of the marriage has not been found but a son, Pierre, presumably the first son, was baptized, September 11, 1765. The child here referred to, William Hay, died, March 21, 1778, aged about one month. See Denissen, *op. cit.*, and Ste. Anne's Church Register (ms. copies in Burton Hist. Coll.).

³⁵ James Robertson, commissioned lieutenant colonel of the Sixteenth Regiment, Aug. 17, 1768; colonel, May 25, 1772; major general, Jan. 1, 1776 and Aug. 29, 1777. W. C. Ford, *British Officers Serving in the American Revolution, 1774-1783* (Brooklyn, 1897), 152.