

pay & mine together is not able to keep either of our famelies. there is sometimes an oppertunity of making money in the Service without either neglecting a mans duty, or taking one farthing from the Crown, this & this way only I mean, or would approve off for instance a merchant furnishes things for Government at a certain Rate, now if I'm in the Service & can furnish them at the same rate & make an advantage to myself is it not as just that I a Servant of the Crown reaps a Bennifitt by government as any merchant whatsoever, & I make no Doubt but your Commanding Officer would indulge you in anything reasonable that was for your advantage.

if I dont forget I will send back your Country Dance Book. I must beg your Interest if you have any to get what you can of my things that may be at Detroit put on Board each Vessell that sails for this.

M^{rs} Askin joins in best wishes for You M^{rs} Fleming & famelies Wellfare.

N. B. My Vessell & people being taken into the service I want to know what allowance they are to have of Provisions & Rum & who purchases & delivers out that rum & whether there is to be a Column for it with the Provisions & Returns made monthly of it or however make the matter clear to me.

FROM JOHN ASKIN TO JEAN BAPTISTE BARTHE
AT SAULT STE. MARIE

a Mich. Le 18 de Mai 1778

Mon cher frere Mons^r Bennett Et Mons^r M^eBeath sont arrivés du detroit En Batteau Le 2 de Ce mois il nous Raporte que Le Gouverneur de detroit ne veut pas permettre de passer son poste ny Rom ni farine ny Blée p^r Les Commerçant jusque qu ils a Eu Réponse du general Carleton a qui il a Écrit a Ce sujets Et il garde La Barque jusque quil aye des nouvelles d'En Bas Celle Est En parties La Cause pour quoy je ne vous Est pas Envoyé Le Michilimakina plutot Comme jaurait Été flatté de vous avoir marqué p^r Certain si ont pouvoit se fier sur Le detroit ou non pour