

bringing it down from Grosse Point, we however will have occasion for your Calash<sup>33</sup> notwithstanding

M<sup>rs</sup> McKee sends by this opportunity a few Paccans<sup>34</sup> which she begs her Dear Mother will accept of, and a Couple of Matts, she also requests that if you have received any letters from Captain or M<sup>rs</sup> Merideth that you will be Kind enough to send them over.

My dear Wife joins me in Love to our dear Parents & to the Children.

My dear Sir believe me to be yours most affectionately

T. McKee

John Askin Esq<sup>r</sup>

*Addressed:* John Askin Esquire Detroit

*Endorsed:* Petite Cote July 18<sup>th</sup> '97 Cap<sup>t</sup> McKee to Jn<sup>o</sup> Askin Answ<sup>d</sup>

# REPLY OF BRITISH MAGISTRATES TO APPEAL OF GENERAL WILKINSON

Sandwich, 28<sup>th</sup> July 1797

Sir, Yesterday we had the Honor of having your Excellency's Letter of the 16<sup>th</sup> Instant laid before us by the Clerk of our Court and have maturely considered the same.

In answer to which, we beg leave to assure your Excellency that nothing could afford us greater pleasure (were it in our power) than to give effectual aid to remedy the evil complained of; we are perfectly aware of the necessity of Coöperation of the servants of the respective Govern-

33 The calash (calèche) came into use in France toward the middle of the seventeenth century, as an improvement upon the gig theretofore in use. Its body, curved like the bottom of a boat, was attached by leather thongs to curved uprights extending from the axles in lieu of springs. It was ordinarily a four-wheeled vehicle, having two seats facing each other, accommodating four persons, and a small elevated box-like seat in front, on which the driver rode.

In Canada, where calashes were introduced by the year 1700, certain changes in the construction of the vehicle were made. Two wheels were employed instead of four, and thereby the seating capacity was reduced to two persons and the driver. Sometimes a folding top was added to the calash, affording a certain degree of protection and privacy to the occupants. From these tops the French women conceived the idea of the headdress of the same name, which was so designed that it could either cover the head or be folded back on the shoulders at will. Information adapted from *Bull. Recherches Hist.*, II, 10-13, and John Lambert, *Travels through Lower Canada* . . . (London, 1810), I, 172.

34 The paccan (pecan) was a fur-bearing animal, the largest member of the weasel family. By the English traders it was called the fisher (*mustela pennanti*).