

FROM JOHN ASKIN TO COLONEL DE PEYSTER

Detroit 5 Jan^y 99

Dr Sir I had the pleasure Jointly with my Family to learn by your kind letter of the 18 January last that M^{rs} Depeyster & you enjoyed good health, indeed we frequently had that happiness before from the information of several acquaintances in this Quarter, M^r Leith I believe the last

Your letter reached me last Summer & I immediately wrote a particular friend of mine at Michilimackinac to endeavour & obtain of Doctor Mitchel³ & M^r Gautier the vouchers you required. the former readily gave one, but the latter from intoxication & perhaps Some other cause never could be prevailed on. the Doctor's after I got it was on Such a Scrap of paper that I had to Send back for another, and now he has not put any date to it & declares (which Surprises me) that he does not know the time. there is no others of those mentioned in your account could be met with at Michilimackinac, but M^r Ainse⁴ and many others are at Montreal & as your old acquaintance M^r Todd (Isaac) lives there & they are all known to him, I am sure he will render you Service If in his power, and as he has the art of persuasion he is a very proper person I would have wrote him & sent the list, but I think its better you do it yourself.

All your old acquaintances in this Quarter—William McComb excepted, are all alive and well the Commodore lives at gros Pointe (except when his duty requires him at the Rivers' mouth) Colonel M^cKee at River tranche, his Son⁵ (married to my Daughter Therese) at petite cote, M^cGregor & Park lower down in the Same quarter also Pollard our high Sherrieff Elliott⁶ & Caldwell⁷ at the Rivers

Sarah Macomb, daughter of William Macomb of Detroit and (later) New York, and sister of General Alexander Macomb of the U. S. army. Information adapted from sketch in A. S. De Peyster, *Miscellanies by an Officer* (New York, 1888), and Henry A. Macomb (comp.), *The Macomb Family Record* (Camden, N. J., 1917).

3 Dr. David Mitchell, for whom see *B. H. R.*, I, 85.

4 Probably Joseph Louis Ainse, for whose career see *ibid.*, 69.

5 Captain Thomas McKee, for whose career see *ibid.*, 376.

6 Matthew Elliot, for whose career see *ibid.*, 257-58.

7 William Caldwell, for sketch of whose career see *ibid.*, 243.