

NEWS FROM DETROIT

Detroit 22 April '99

My dear Sir As the vessels now begin to prepare for voyaging and I wish to be always ready, I take up the pen to answer your Kind letter dated the 1st January last. I am thankfull to you for your Concern at the loss of my 2 Small vessels, at same time, from their being old, freight decreasing & men's wages rising, I think I have Suffered very little.

Lafontaine's business about the house is all Settled, and tho I had to take back the mill after I Sold her Yet what I got for So doing, and the State She is now in without expence, and prospects I have of disposing of her again makes it twice as well for the proprietors as If M^cDougall had got her. I sold him a farm near the Mill and have had more trouble about it than all the Sales of Land I ever made in this Country. his head at times is in a Shocking Situation, and there was but you Could regulate it.

I am glad your opinion of this country is as favourable as that of the lower province as it may induce [you] one day to Settle here. really without flattery, you wanted much. I often hear of matters which pass at the Sessions on the other Side which does not please me, and to go over alone, I might not be able to make any alteration. one man takes the lead and all the others agree to what he does therefore in that case there is but one man on the Bench.

I am glad you mean to pay us a visit We will be happy to See you. poor Harffy has been dangerously ill, but [is] getting better. with all his faults I would be Sorry to Loose him I can readily look over the errors of my old acquaintances as I hope they do over mine.

John & his family are well, I have informed him of your attention for which he is thankful he is gone to Cayahoga to pick up some skins There is a constant war between most of the town Citizens or rather magistracy and the Military. M^r Dodemead I learn has Sued Col. Strong for interrupting his trade³⁵ The British are clear of all disputes

³⁵ See *ante* 165.