

Very truly Your Most Obed^t & very Humble Servant
Rob^t Nichol

P. S. have the goodness to take up my Note to Anderson cancel it, and send it down Prince Robertsons acc^t is inclosed

Appended: direction for planting the potatoes They must be planted in the old of the moon as soon after you receive them as possible. put straw dung over but none at all under them, & the soil should be Sandy. they will not be fit to dig untill October but when dug they will keep good 12 Months.

Addressed: John Askin Esq^r Merchant Detroit Fav^d
p M^r A Willmot

Endorsed: Queenston May 28^h 1799 M^r Rob^t Nichols to
Jn^o Askin recv^d y^e 6 June Answ^d June 10^h

INDEBTEDNESS OF LOUIS DERINEAU

Detroit 30 May '99

Captain Gilkison⁴⁰

Sir I inclose for your perusal, a Letter for Louis Derineau on board your Vessel. If he thinks proper to comply with its contents, it is very well, If not he will have himself alone to blame for all future trouble that will attend his refusal. As I understand he is your pilot I do not wish to deprive you of his Services nor injure the proprietors of the Vessel, he probably thinks I could not have taken him. he is much

⁴⁰ William Gilkison was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, March 9, 1777, being the eldest of six brothers, all of whom followed the sea. William early took service on a merchantman which was captured by the French, with the result that he underwent a year's captivity in France. Being at length released, he made his way to New York in 1796 and soon thereafter to the upper lakes, where for years he served as master of vessels in the employ of the North West Company. He served for a time in the War of 1812, as a captain of Upper Canada militia. He married Isabella Grant of Detroit, sixth daughter of Commodore Alexander Grant, who was born, Dec. 20, 1783, and to them eleven sons were born, seven of whom grew up. In 1815, Captain Gilkison returned with his family to Scotland in order to procure for his children better educational facilities than Canada then afforded. In 1832, he again returned to Canada, whither several of his sons had preceded him, and located in Brantford. About this time he purchased a large tract of land at the falls of Grand River where stands the town of Elora, which he founded and named. He died, April 25, 1833, and was buried beside the old Mohawk church in Brantford. Isabella Grant died in Glasgow, Scotland, Feb. 10, 1828. Some of their descendants are still living in Brantford. See F. Douglas Reville, *History of the County of Brant* (Brantford, 1920), 80-83; Ont. Hist. Soc., *Papers and Records*, VIII, 147-48; and mss. in B. H. Coll., *passim*.