

please to present my respectful Compliments to M^{rs} Askin & family also to Commodore Grant & family and beleive me to remain with great regard D^r Sir

Your old friend & Humble Serv^t

A Cuyler⁵⁵

let me know if there is not any prospects of recovering any thing from Niagara

John Askin Esq^r

Addressed: John Askin Esq^r Merchant Detroit

Endorsed: Montreal June 28^h 1799 Abram Cuyler Esq^r to Jn^o Askin recvd y^e 21st July Answ^d y^e 10^h Sep^r

RENTAL OF SALT SPRING

Queenston June 29, 1799

Dear Sir In looking over some old papers I find a memorandum from you about your Salt Spring. There are often Salt Boilers from Onondago at this pace some of whom, would (I am convinced) be glad to rent it, if there is a sufficiency of water. Should you still wish to rent it out by sending me all the information you can respecting it and the terms I may probably find you a tenant

I am with respect Dear Sir

very truly yours

Rob^t Nichol

Addressed: John Askin Esq^r Merchant Detroit

⁵⁵ Abraham Cuyler, a younger brother of Cornelius Cuyler who is noted above, was born in Albany, April 11, 1742. He became a lieutenant in the Queen's Rangers in the Seven Years' War, and commanded a detachment sent to the relief of Detroit in 1763, which was cut to pieces on May 28 at Point Peleé on Lake Erie, not far from the mouth of the Detroit River. From this debacle, Cuyler himself escaped, although wounded, together with about one-third of his men. The remainder, over sixty in number, were conveyed to Detroit and with one or two exceptions were there tortured to death. Cuyler in September, 1770, was appointed mayor of Albany, an office which both his father and his grandfather had held before him. With the advent of the Revolution, he remained loyal to the Crown, and in December, 1776, was forced to take refuge with the British army in New York. Here he remained until the close of the war, when he became inspector of refugee loyalists in Montreal. He enjoyed the favor of Governor Haldimand, and in 1783 the latter instructed Colonel De Peyster in Detroit to afford all possible assistance to Cuyler in the collection of a debt which was owed him by Gerrit Graverat of Detroit. For an account of what followed in Detroit, see Burton, *City of Detroit, 1701-1922*, 957-58. The present letter indicates that Cuyler's westward journey, in 1783, was extended as far as Mackinac. His later life was apparently spent in Canada. He died in Yorkfield, Feb. 5, 1810. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*, and Cuyler Reynolds (comp.), *Albany Chronicles* (Albany, 1906), 268 *et passim*.