

if you could spare a 1000 bricks, paid for on delivery, *no* answer I have received; since that another application 300, on the same terms, as the Kings Vessel will be up on the change of Wind I will endeavour to get them put on board, if you will please to send orders for the purpose. Some time since I wrote for Hinges, avail'd my self of M^r Askin's Jun^r having them near a fortnight; *it is cold* and the *door wide open*. M^r Cornwall says his price is £100, if that is accepted. if not he will not give a Farthing more; I have inquired of Some peoples who well know the Situation, he must have it, and the land will fatten by keeping another year or two. Reynolds I have not been able to see, altho I have call "*en passant*" thrice, but as more bricks are wanted suppose I delay until they arrive. The Engineer, appears undecided. he has lately live'd free at Cap^t M^eKee's. *Curse the Musick* I wish it was sold, I care not for what, as all my wants and wishes to attain are not worth the pains, or trouble *to my Friends*. you will favor me if it could be any way disposed of. an *Ox* I have at the river La Corce at one Bondy's, and I believe all the *Devils in Hell*, stands Sentry against me, as I have try'd every means in my power to get it. you must think me *mad*, *I really am not* but such accumulation of disappointments cannot happen but very rare. Believe me my D^r Sir I am now only painting to you how I am kick'd about It is impossible for me to leave this place Accounts frequently I have sent on your Side address'd to some "*that once where Friends*"—no answer; but from you & M^r Innis Your enclosed I gave to Ruff⁸¹ immediately on the receipt. he sail'd early this morn^g I

81 James Rough was a native of Scotland, born about the year 1768, who spent many years of his active career as master of a sailing vessel on the upper lakes. We have not learned when he entered upon this service; the present document contains the earliest mention of him we have found. Augustus Porter's narrative (Buffalo Hist. Soc., *Pubs.*, VII, 321) states that Rough became half owner and master of the schooner *Mary*, built at Erie in 1806. The *Mary* was in the harbor at Mackinac when the British captured the place on July 17, 1812, and was utilized by them as a cartel ship to convey the captured garrison and American traders under parole to Black Rock. At Detroit, however, the *Mary* was seized by General Hull, only again to be captured by the British a few days later, and again to be utilized by them to convey a portion of the prisoners taken, this time to Fort Erie. After the war, Captain Rough was part owner, and for a time master of the *Michigan*, which was said to be the largest American vessel on the lakes. Many years later the *Michigan* was loaded with a miscellaneous zoological collection and sent over Niagara Falls, as an entertainment exploit. Captain Rough superintended this enterprise, and apparently was still interested in the vessel. He was one of the early residents of Buffalo, where he