

bring them to a close and if we fail we will then Adop[t] such other modes Friends and Old Acquaintances should. I believe your wish never was to injure me and I'm sure mine never was to injure you. Under these circumstances there is little fear but our Settlement will End in the manner we have lived together Namely Friendly

I am Dear Sir as Usual

Yours truly

Thomas Smith Esq^r

P. S. Your place of geting fire Wood at the River aux Ecorse I dont think bad. If I was not going to York we might join. You had better Buy my little Vessell she would answer that purpose

Endorsed: Detroit April 26th 1800 John Askin to Thomas Smith Esq^r (Copy)

ESTABLISHMENT OF U. S. CUSTOMS SERVICE

(circular)

D'Eetroit May 2^d 1800

Sir I some time since received an appointment of Inspector of the Revenue, for the port of D'Eetroit, without the necessary instructions to govern me in the duties of the office. I therefore declined acting until these were furnished me. Yesterday they arrived & I find myself compelled to call on you, for the duties on all the spirits, wines & teas in your possession, imported into this territory since 2^d March 1799.

I hope that this fair notice will save me the unpleasant task of enforcing a compliance with the Laws, to which my oath of office compels me.

The form of a statement necessary to be made to this office may be had, by applying to Sir,

your most obt Serv^t

Matthew Ernest Insp^r of the Revenues

Jn^o Askin sen. Esq.

Addressed: John Askin sen Esq; Merchant near D'Eetroit

Endorsed: Detroit May 2^d 1800 Matthew Ernest Esq^r as Inspector of the revenues to Jn^o Askin rec^d the same day