

ACTIVITIES IN YORK

York July 4th 1801

My dear M^r Askin Your several letters both by Robertson & maisonvill are received by me, which has made me very happy being the first intellengence received from [your] place Since my departure; Only a short letter from M^{rs} Grant the 20th of may. Robertson & Maisonvill arrived here the day before yesterday. poor Robertson. as he tells me and indeed his looks and appearance show it; that he had been near deaths door for four days at M^r Hamilton at Q—town And that it was a mericle his escape

I suspect he & maisonvill has been keeping up the ball freely

All the oppertunity I have had yet of speaking to His Excellency Since I received your letters, was only to make him your most profound respects. And that you was happy that the Complaint made to your disadvantage, was made to a gentleman of generosity and Candore. His Answer was he never gave it the least credit, And he was glad you kept your health

Clauss,⁷¹ M^cKee and Selby are all here now. Selby stays with us, as I may say. the old lady⁷² and David are as civil and kind to me as possible. I am much indeed pressed for the Returns of the militia of our County by the General. Why in the name of god did not M^r F. Baby send them down by maisonvill; Your militia business I had no oppertunity yet to speake to the Gener^l or Major Green about We are very much hurryed, or Confined to business in our Legislative Capacity owing at the begining of the Session every thing were kept the most of the time in a Confusion, from

⁷¹ Colonel William Claus, son of Daniel Claus and grandson of Sir William Johnson. William was born in Williamsburg, N. Y., Sept. 7, 1765. His mother was Ann (Nancy) Johnson, and one of his uncles was Sir John Johnson, one of the most noted loyalists of the Revolution, and after 1783, Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs in North America. By reason of his family connections, Claus enjoyed the confidence of the Iroquois, and on June 13, 1796, he was appointed Superintendent of Indian Affairs at Niagara. On the death of Colonel Alexander McKee, in 1799, Claus succeeded him as Deputy Superintendent-General and Deputy Inspector-General of Indian Affairs. He died at Niagara, in 1826. See *Simcoe Papers*, IV, *passim*; Carnochan, *Hist. of Niagara*, *passim*; and Irving, *op. cit.*

⁷² Apparently Mrs. Smith, widow of Major John Smith, for whose career see *B. H. R.*, I, 407, 441.