

make it up. no one [is] more happy in hearing from you and family than I am, I despair of ever seeing you in this World, what may be done in the next can't say, time will discover. I am growing old, and infirm have been laid up this five weeks with being overheated at a fire in this Place. some evil dispos'd persons has sett fire, to this place eight times within this Month and bur[n]t upwards of thirty dwelling Houses, two Churches, the prison & Colege, besides a number of stores out houses &^{ea}. it is clear that it has been done on purpose. five hundred pound reward is offer'd to discover. it must be french agents. your boots I will get made, am sorry you did not send one of your legs. Knowls is Dead but his young man may have your measure as for the *Saw a Bardeaux*⁴⁰ I dont know what it is however will find it out. I find you have turnd farmer. so much the better you are out of the chances of Misfortune. I have turn'd Auctioneer to get a living which is not a pleasant business, however any port in a Storm. you and me missed our port when we left off the N West business while we was young, but it is too late to repine. in a very few years it will be the same, as if we enjoyed every thing we wish'd. your old friend Todd & M^cGill still continues well. that is Todd is well after dinner, but always sick in the mornings. he is geting old every way. I wrote to you last year respecting James Frazer and I also wrote to him which he has not answer'd. In Casety & Williams Accounts there is a large sum due by Tague the spanard, and I am informd he has given Lands for the amount to Frazer & his agents, and that he has recoverd many other debts which he has not accounted for. this therefore is to request you will examine him & the Books and he must Transmit to me all security, for Lands or otherwise which he may have for or on account of said Casety & Williams and that he forwards me an account of the whole and delivers you a copy, otherwise I will be under the necessity of sending an Agent on purpose or I will empower any person you recommend & take the Books & affairs out of his Hands. this you may tell him from me. last fall he wrote me he intended to make a dividend, since which [I] have not heard from him.

⁴⁰ For the explanation of this line see *post*, 396.