

Endorsed: Fort Erie Feb^r 1st 1804 Mr Rob^t Nichol to
Jn^o Askin recv^d y^e 25^h Answ^d March 1st

GOODS FOR DETROIT TRADE

Near Sandwich Feb^y 2^d 1804

Dear Robert Your favours of the 28th December & 18 June last reached me long since and [I] observe what you say respecting the Hulled Corn but am sorry you are doubtfull about furnishing the Flour and Pork I think I before observed to you that these last articles were more saleable than the Corn, yet when there was demand for it, the profit was often greater. Flour with us is now at 40/ but that not owing to the Mills not going than the want of wheat which is only 9/ winchester measure your observation of paying interest where Cash is laid out, or the produce furnished will fetch Cash is just and reasonable and to which I can have no objections for you know to force a Sale on any thing in this part of the Country is impossible and the flour that fetches not 20/ in one Month has brought double the next therefore it is better for you and me to pay any interest than be obliged to make payment on a certain day where the produce is sold payment with interest will be immediately made. there is a great prospect of much gain on Whisky which can be laid in at 5/6 and unless cast away never can cause a loss, but [I] observe if Pork and Flour could be got from the American side and such vouchers sent as would prove that here it would be a great saving when sent to Michilimacinac. the Duty on the former is 2/ per Gallon and on all provissions above 12/ Per Cent. The *Saguinah* is now under repair and if the Captain & Carpenter does not deceive me much she will sail from this as early as any Vessel.

The whole Family join M^{rs} Askin in wishing and in every wish that may tend to your Happiness and wellfair and I remain as usual D^r Robert

Yours most truly

Mr Robert Nicholl Merchant, Queenston

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S[r] to M^r Robert Nicholl Merc^t Queenston Copy