

vous Viverez sur terre, Nayant rien autre chose à vous
marquer Je suis Mons^r

Votre tres humble Serviteur

Endorsed: Proche de Sandwich le 12 de Mai 1804 John
Askin to Mons^r Vigoe. Copie

Translation

Near Sandwich, May 12, 1804

Mr. Vigo

Sir: I was extremely annoyed to learn by a letter from Mr. William McIntosh that your counsel, the Attorney-General, says that you have paid me more than you ever owed me and that I have tricked you. I have never tricked you nor any other man on earth, and every honest person who knows me will say the same, I am sure.

The Attorney-General took a great liberty with my character since he has no acquaintance with me, but I am glad that he does not have your sanction in the matter. I have never let a chance slip of serving you, either with the Miamis Company or in our own private affairs. The last time you were here, when your note had been overdue more than a year then, I would not have you arrested, nor cause you any inconvenience, in spite of my great need of funds. I would not take the advice to have you prosecuted to secure payment. All I ask is that you should do the same by me. If you thought there were errors in our accounts, why did you not say so when you were here and I could have shown you the contrary, absolutely, having in my house all bills of sales of peltries sent to London, as well as other proofs that everything I had charged you with was correct.

Believe me, one should never make trouble about paying one's note. It looks bad in court and at the same time never has any effect. Debts must be paid sooner or later, or payment will be enforced in some way. There is an affair on right now of much more consequence than all you owe me in which I could help you. Your debt to Messrs. Williams & Casety is in the hands of my son-in-law, Mr. Brush, and myself, for collection, with authority to