

It was my intention to go into the Missouri Country this fall where I was sure of good trade from my knowledge of the country and the freedom in the matter of a license. But how can I venture to ask for goods with two lawsuits on my hands? Every one may not know that I did all in my power to avoid trouble. However, there would be no difficulty in getting goods. The fact is, I am scrupulous about accepting them.

You see, Sir, how ruinous it is to have spiteful agents. If this one had not wanted to do me harm without doing you any good, he would have waited for the return of Mr. Dubois, as I begged him to do. You would have been paid, myself at ease, and I should never have thought to look if there were any errors in our accounts. In proof of this, the day after Mr. Dubois returned, even before coming to see me, he went to Mr. McIntosh and offered to fulfill the promise he had made, apologizing for his forgetfulness when he left. Mr. McIntosh told him it was too late.

With nothing more of interest to you, I have the honor to remain respectfully, Sir,

Your most humble and most obedient servant,

Vigo

AFFAIRS OF ISAAC TODD

Montreal 20th July 1804

My dear friend On my return from N. York I found your favors of the 29^h Jan^y & 27^h febr^y [since] which Malincholly events has prevented my Answering. I found my friend Mr M^cTavish in a bad State of health which occasioned My being much with him & his famely he departed this Life the 6th Ins^t his Loss will be felt by his famely, his friends & his Country he has Left a Large fortune part of which is disposed of much to his honor he has Left £1000 to the Commod^{re} Son.⁵⁴ as I am One of his Executors & the perticular friend of his disconsolate Wife, occasions my attention & many painfull scenes. and to add to this, I buried on the 15th a favorite House keeper after a painfull

⁵⁴ Alexander Grant, for whom see *ante*, 21.