

to M^{rs} Askin & all Your famely God Bless you all &
believe me

Your Sinc[e]re friend
Isaac Todd

John Askin Esq^r

Addressed: John Askin Esq^r Strabane Detroit favor R.
Hamilton Esq^r

Endorsed: Montreal July 20th 1804 Isaac Todd Esq^r
to Jn^o Askin recv^d y^e 21st & Answ^d y^e 29^h Aug^t

TUITION OF ALEXANDER ASKIN

Detroit August 8th 1804

Dear Sir I have enclosed the Acc^t of Mas^r Alick's⁵⁵
Schooling from The first time of his commencement to the
5th of August and have given Credit for all the Money that
I received, the Price of one thousand of Bricks which I have
had Received by Your order from John Shaw I don't know
therefore You'll be pleasd to deduct it. And as I am under
the Necessity of paying a large Sum of Money I would con-
sider it a great favour if you would be Pleased to Send me
the Balance. I am certain that I have not the least doubt
of your good inclination of serving me in my distress and on
my part I conceive & think that I have discharged my duty
faithfully for I am not ashamed of the progress that Mas^r
Alick has made while under my care & Tuition and be
assured Sir, that I will not be in the least slack or Remiss in
advancing him in every degree to the utmost in my power
Mas^r Alick has a pretty collection of Books, but unhappily
lost his Grammar which is the Key & Instrument to all the
Authors. Perhaps you could procure him one Soon. I hope
you will be so kind [as] to Inform me if I have any prospect
of receiving that Small debt that the late Doctor Harffy
owed me

⁵⁵ Alexander David, the youngest son of John Askin, was born, Feb. 22, 1791. He died in early manhood, apparently toward the close of 1815. For several years following the family's removal to Strabane, Alexander attended school in Detroit. He subsequently read law with his brother-in-law, Elijah Brush. If family estimates may be trusted, he was a youth of much natural ability, who never really applied himself. He was present at the surrender of Detroit, in 1812, as a lieutenant of the Flank Company, Second Essex Militia Regiment; the following year he is listed as a lieutenant of the Troop of Provincial Royal Artillery Drivers. See Askin papers *passim*; and Irving, *op. cit.*, 40, 91.