

Dear Sir, with best respects & sincere Compliments to you & Worthy family I remain your very humble & obedient Servant

Matthew Donovan

Endorsed: Detroit Aug^t 8^h 1804 Mr Mathew Donnovan
to Jn^o Askin recv^d y^e 9^h

DEATH OF SIMON McTAVISH

Queenston August 10th 1804

Dear Sir After a very pleasant Jaunt to the Lower Province, I got home three days ago. I had the pleasure to find my family in perfect health, nor have I as yet perceived that the Bussiness had been [illegible] by my Absence. At Montreal I found most of our old freinds well & hearty. Unfortunately during our stay there, the Society suffered a very serious Loss in M^r M^cTavish. Full of health & spirits last year, he had projected to build a most Magnificent house in the Vicinity of Montreal. With a Man of M^r M^cTavishs enterprize the Execution of the Plan followed the project very close. He had it founded in the Fall, & early this spring on superintending the Work, he got a severe cold which being at first neglected, soon became serious, & when too late was found past the power of medecine to remove. His death caused a Sensation not only in Montreal, but through the Whole Province, which I will not Attempt to describe. He has left a very large Fortune very [illegible] by Will to his family, relations, & freinds. Some of the particulars are said to be as follows,—to his Widow 1200 a Year, his Second Son £20000, to each of two daughters 10,000, to a nefew not a partner £5000, to each of the others £1000, as allready well provided for. to the Sisters & Gray Nuns £1000 each in Charity, to a Son of his old Freind M^r Frobisher £5000, to finish the Education of our freind the Comodores Son £1000, and many others equally well Selected, to the Amount tis supposed of half his fortune The Residue supposed £50-or 60 thousand pounds to his eldest Son. I have been thus particular as you Well knew the Man, & will as much as any body be sensible of the Loss the Country has sustained. Our Worthy freind M^r Todd is