

You yourself know the trouble & the vexation of Attending the public offices at York; this by some new regulations is very greatly encreased, And I would sooner undertake almost any other bussiness, than go thro the process, on my own Account, and how much worse for another, in whose Circumstances you are perhaps but ill informd, & of course must be often at a loss.

I have understood that a New Commission is intended this Session in Matters of Land, but how to operate I have not learnt. As far as my poor endeavours can go, it shall be extensive enough to meet the Cases you Mention, & I shall not fail to take your letter to York for the perusal of our freind Cartwright.

You will do as you think best about the lott of land you Mention. Fortunately the balance between us has not been very much wanted for some time past.

Of Public News we have very little this Season You will hear by M^r Williams who passed this a few days ago the Reports of New York. I did not see him in passing. We enjoy in common with you Peace & plenty. Our Wh[eat] Crops are I beleive nearly equal to those of last year; but the Demand from below has raised flour to 20/- and wheat to 6/ p^r bush. Pork is good, tho in less quantity than last year. I have now in my Cellar upwards of two hundred Hogs. We also made an forty Barrels of Cyder; & what I beleive you have not yet thought of, 250 Gallons peach Brandy from my own Orchard.

M^{rs} Hamilton joins me in best respects for M^{rs} Askin, & in best wishes for you & all your good family. I am Dear Sir

Yours very Sincerly

R. Hamilton

Queenston Dec^r 16, 1804.

John Askin Esq^r

Addressed: John Askin Esquire Merchant near Sandwich

Endorsed: Queenston Dec^r 16^h 1804 M^r Rob^t Hamilton
to Jn^o Askin recv^d y^e 4^h Jan^y 1805 Answ^d y^e 10th