

many Obligations. I shall then let Captain Mayne know how ready I am to render Service to any Friend of yours, however the opportunity I fear will be few untill I remove where he is & that cannot well be before I have disposed of my property here M^{rs} & Miss Askin joins in Compliments to all your good family & I remain

Dear Sir Your Most Obed^t Hble Serv^t

(Signed) John Askin

Cap^t D. W. Smith

Endorsed: (Copy) Detroit July 10^h 1796 Jn^o Askin to Cap^t D. W. Smith at Newark

FROM COLONEL RICHARD ENGLAND TO JOHN ASKIN

Detroit⁷⁸ July 18th 1796

My Dear Sir I feel too sensibly Your very kind and friendly Attention to me and every Individual of my Family, not to be convinced that it will give You pleasure to hear that we All arrived here safe Yesterday, after a very pleasant Run of thirty four hours from the Islands. I am now making every exertion to proceed immediately to Newark in Order to Arrange Our Embarkation over the Ontario And propose if possible to set out immediately. No Account of the Arrival of the Fleet has Yet reached this post and consequently no news. From the Distribution of Quarters, I think there is much Reason to apprehend that the two Battallions of Royal Americans are destined for the West Indies. But as this information naturally will not be pleasing at Grosse Point,⁷⁹ don't mention it as coming from me particularly as it is only Conjecture

As I shall ever feel interested in Yours, and Your Familys Welfare I shall be happy to hear from You, and shou'd I be so fortunate as to have it in my power to be of the most trifling use or Convenience to You, I request you will Command me wherever I am placed. Mention any Circumstances relative to the late change at Detroit that You may think proper to communicate, And if any thing shou'd

⁷⁸ This is an error, as the letter was obviously written at Fort Erie.

⁷⁹ The allusion is to Commodore Grant, whose daughter, Therese, was married to Thomas Wright, surgeon in the Royal American Regiment. For the domestic tragedy that ensued upon this order, see *B. H. R.*, I, 461.