

I heard with sorrow the Death of the late M^r Andrew M^c Gill²³ and wrote his Brother on that melancholy occasion

I remain with Esteem D^r Sir

Your most Obedient very humble Servant

Mess^{rs} James & Andrew M^c Gill & C^o Merchants Montreal

P. S. Much paines have been taken for these three years past by persons from Interested Views to make the *Saguinah* pass for a rotten Vessell its false and shamefull she never sailed yet without being in a situation to meet any weather and always had the necessary repairs so that a single package has not been damaged in her and now when repaired will be as safe & good as any Vessell of her size on the Lakes & will be reduced 5 Tons so as not to have to pay Tonnage in the Ports of the United States; there is not any Vessell has lasted so long & people from her age are easy persuaded to believe she is rotton but the contrary has been demonstrated each time that she has been strip'd for repairs and her timber examined & there is but one Vessell on this Lake that can go to windward of her. I wish some Mercantile House that has much freight for Michilimacinac would take my share in her they like on their own terms and then the present Owners would have her thoroughly repaired, for not having any sure freight we dare hardly commence repairs if you could take a fourth or more share in her you would not have Money to lay out but give me Credit and You shall have the preferance in furnishing Stores to be deducted from your freight. Its certain that though not kept half her time she last Year and the year before made so much that at Settlement last may she owed each of us three Owners only £98-11-6, New York Currency each.

Endorsed: Near Sandwich Oct^r 1st 1805. October John Askin Sen^r To Mess^{rs} James & Andrew M^cGill, Merchants Montreal. (Copy)

²³ For the career of Andrew McGill, see *B. H. R.*, I, 402.