

got drunk on his way to Fort Erie no word of him nor letters. When I got first in office,²⁵ I felt uneasy, but now thank god I begin to see clearer, with the assistance of two very honourable men perfectly know'n the intention and secrets of our worthy late Lieu^t Governor, regarding the business of this province, The attorney General²⁶ & Captⁿ Mc^cGill,²⁷ I mentioned in one of my former letters that Effort were made by a gentleman former[ly] in office, to get hold of the helm after he himself was the principle in Establishing me at first. This I have heard was by an advice of a new Comer, and a Country Gentleman of yours high in the law Department here, You know will how ready some of your natives are to create Disturbances and fond of it, but that gentleman formerly in office and my Colleagues were very stanch in what they understood to be the intention of His Majestys instruction regarding the Death of a Lieu Governor. I beg to lay my injunction on you to have the Goodness, that if the Agents of M^r W^m Robertson do's not Come forward and pay the Interest on his account—That [you] would be pleased to instruct M^r Brush to sell his W^m Robertson[s] house on the Common and lots in Town so as to defray my acc^t and the Expence of the attachment. Also I request of you to require Doctor Brown's account And get settlement made between him & M^{rs} Grant I have wrote M^{rs} G. on the subject, do not my dear Sir thumpen[?] out my real and sincere Regard to M^{rs} Askin M^r & M^{rs} Brush, Charles, James, & Nelly, not forgetting Alick. tell him I had a letter by M^r Baby from Aleck Grant, but do not find he thrives fast in his learning he promises pushing on. C^{ol} Shaw²⁸ Mc^cGill Jarvis &c &c have been Enquiring after you Miss Crookshanks is not married yet remember me to Ernest, the Governor & family Henry & all those of our well wisher's—youl be plagued reading this scrol. I have wrote Mercer,

²⁵ Lieutenant-Governor Hunter died in Quebec on Aug. 21, 1805. During his term of office he had been frequently absent from York on duties pertaining to his position as commander-in-chief of the army in Canada, and during these intervals the government of Upper Canada devolved upon a committee of executive councilors. Upon the death of Hunter, Grant, as president of the Executive Council, became acting governor, serving in this capacity until the appointment of Governor Gore in 1806.

²⁶ Thomas Scott (1746-1824), attorney-general of Upper Canada, 1801-1806, and chief justice, 1806-16. For his career, see Ont. Hist. Soc., *Papers and Records*, XX, 126 ff.

²⁷ John McGill, for whom see *ante*, 234.

²⁸ Aeneas Shaw, for whom see *ante*, 241-42.