

good time I have Youl say that is a paradox when you think serious you'l Join me, an idle person has no time. laziness brings on langor, idleness Supposed sickness blues &c &c There is neither Post or Express yet arrived from lower Canada. I am realy sorry for the death of that good Young man poor Donovan poor old distressed Couple, the ffather & mother My Compliments to your nieghbours, M^cIntosh and family. It will not do any hurt to Charles to come here should his health admit of it and look about him. I pass many a pleasant hour with Powel & family talking about our familys. I think his pivishness seems much for the better. I wrote to Richardson some time ago, had he wrote M^cGill regarding his lodging money he would have got it instead of Co^l Shaw, Who the late Gener^l took a dislike to also to a nother good man Doc^t M^cCaully Would not see the Doct^r at Quebec. forget not [to] remember me to Brush & lady Charles James, Nelly, And my fellow Alexander.

Your friend & humble Ser^t

Alex Grant

John Askin Sen Esq^r Strabane.

Addressed: John Askin Sen^r Esquire Strabane, near Sandwich

Endorsed: York 19th Dec^r 1805 Commodore Grant to John Askin Sen^r Rec^d Feb^y 1st 1806 Answ^d the 4th

Stamped: YORK 23 Dec 1805

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT HAMPERS BRITISH TRADERS

January 2nd 1806

Dear Sir I answered all your letters fully about a month ago since which M^r Pattinson tells me he this fall seen a man named Bison³⁸ at S^t Josephs of Lake Michigan who told him that General Wilkinson³⁹ had detained M^r Dickson with all his men near six weeks at the entrance of the Missourie and before he would let him go in he was obliged to hire other engajes

³⁸ Probably Louis Buisson, for whom see *ante*, 292.

³⁹ General James Wilkinson was appointed governor of Louisiana Territory in 1805. The trade of the upper Mississippi region was at this time chiefly in the hands of a group