

P. S. Alex^r being on the other side does not know off this opportunity otherwise would write.

Mr. Charles Askin at Queenston

Addressed: M^r Charles Askin at Queenston favoured by Rich^d Pattinson Esq^r

Endorsed: Cezar is dead his disorder the Bots.

REMOVAL OF MR. AND MRS. MEREDITH TO HALIFAX

Woolwich Feb^y 1 1807

My dear Sir We were made vastly happy by your kind letter [which] arrived with the Fall ships and sincerely rejoice at the excellent account it affords of your Health and that of all The Family. We have upon the whole been toss'd a good deal about since you saw us, and I had expectations that our future days would be somewhat more stationary but a soldiers life is never certain, therefore we Must be content with it's lot. since My Promotion to Liu^t Colonel in the Regiment I have had hints Not to look upon myself as a fixture, and it has so turned out that My Lord Moira¹¹ has ordred me to proceed to Halifax and take Command of the Royal Artillery in Nova Scotia—a situation certainly desireable being a Healthy Climate and some allowances that may assist our circumstances. the Command in Canada had been long applied for by a Senior officer whose Mother resides at Quebec a L^t Colonel Cox. therefore altho I interested myself to obtain it, the priority of right and a promise long made precluded the possibility of my succeeding (for the present) in my wishes. however we are coming much nearer to you than in England and I hope with Gods blessing we shall do well. it is a nice and very Ostensible Command and a cheap Country, matters not to be let pass, for really every thing in England is so enormously dear that with a Family it is almost impossible to live in the requisite line we

¹¹ Francis Rawdon Hastings, first Marquis of Hastings and second Earl of Moira, was born, Dec. 9, 1754. He entered the army as ensign in August, 1771, and two years later was sent to America, where he served for several years. On June 15, 1778, he became lieutenant colonel and adjutant general of the army in America. In 1781, he defeated General Greene at Hobkirk's Hill, and sailed for home that summer. His further career was long and distinguished. In 1803, he became a general, and in 1812, Governor-General of Bengal and Commander-in-Chief in India. He died at sea, Nov. 26, 1826, in the vicinity of Naples. See *Dict. Nat. Biog.*