

vapours. you are happy in being a farmer. I wish I was one. was I not so old I would be one yet. I see a storm gathering which will exceed 84, and nothing can save us except a general shour of half Joes. the Yankees takes all our money out of the Country. the Indian Traders, all except the Nort[h]west, unless a speedy change [comes] must all go to the right about all trad[e] here seeme to be at a stand. no money, and you cannot say who you can Trust. up to day & down tomorrow. John Lees,¹⁶ one of the King Council, director of the Indian store for which he received of Goverment near £500 p^r Annum, died a few days past considerably in my debt for sundries this winter which he bought, and it is said he will never pay anything. James M^cGill is just arrived from Quebec where he has been at the assembly & Councel doing nothing. Frobisher is well, but Lesters business falls hard on him. M^{rs} Henry has been unwell most of the Winter, my daughter in Health and me, old & Tough. I cant complain for want of health, eat & Sleep well, think of you somtimes. wish you would come down and see us. a voyage would do you good, I am sure it would me. I dont know but I may go to see you yet before I die. If I could make business enough to pay expences. you say you cannot speake to M^r Brush on business surely if you asked him whether he had recoverd any thing he would say yes or no. you will be tired before you get half through this letter. all my family desires to be rememberd to M^{rs} Askin & every branch of yours, and so does your old freind

Alexander Henry

Addressed: John Askin Esq^r Sandwich Detroit

Endorsed: Montreal March 24^h 1807 Alex^r Henry Esq^r
to Jn^o Askin recv^d y^e 24^h April Answ^d y^e 7^h May.

¹⁶ John Lees Jr. was the son of John Lees who was a merchant of Quebec as early as 1764 and a prominent citizen of the place for ten years thereafter. His *Journal of J. L. of Quebec, Merchant*, edited by M. Agnes Burton, was published in Detroit in 1911. His son, our present subject, served as a captain of British militia during the Revolution. He later engaged in trade, in 1791 became a member of the Legislative Assembly, and in 1796 of the Executive Council. In April, 1795, he was appointed storekeeper of the Indian Department, holding this office until his death, when he left his accounts in much confusion. See *Journal of J. L.*, 7 and 31.