

to the Care of M^r Dⁿ Cameron⁴⁵ or Capt Givens⁴⁶ & they will see them forwarded.

If necessary to give you some Idea of this place first its an Island Abounding W^h Rocks & not a Deer Bear, Wolf, Racoon, Moose Cariboux or Muskrat about it. a few Hares is caught & pheasants the Indians live entirely on fish. they even make their Mokasins with the skins of sturgeon & Lace their Snow shoes with the same skin & Skin the Maskelonge for the same purpose. They have Sold to the Merch^{ts} only 5 Beaver skins 20 Martins & 8 Fox skins which is the whole Amo^t of the Hunt of upwards of 120 men since the 24th of Sept last from this statement which is perfectly correct you may Judge what would become of those Poor Miserable Objects if our Generous Government was not to afford them relief.

No doubt you're all verry merry at these times as your

⁴⁵ Duncan Cameron, a native of Scotland, came to America with his parents in 1767 and located in Schenectady. During the Revolution, he sought refuge in Canada, where he soon entered the employ of the North West Company, becoming a partner in 1799. In 1785 and for many years thereafter, he was the company's agent in charge of the Nipigon district. In 1814, he was sent to Red River to checkmate the colonizing project of Lord Selkirk in that region. Much violence followed, and in 1816, the adherents of Selkirk captured Fort Gibraltar, taking Cameron prisoner and sending him to England for trial. There, however, he was released and secured damages from the Hudson's Bay Company for false imprisonment. He returned to Canada several years later and located in Williamstown, Glengarry, where, in 1824, he was elected to represent his district in the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada. In 1820, he married Margaret McLeod. The date of his death is unknown. See Wallace, *op. cit.*, and references there cited.

⁴⁶ Prior to 1791, when he enlisted in the Queen's Rangers, James Givens had acquired a knowledge of the Chippewa and Huron tongues. Upon the organization of the government of Upper Canada, he was commended by Henry Dundas, Secretary of State for Home Affairs, to Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe. From November, 1791, to November, 1802, he was a lieutenant in the Queen's Rangers, serving during the earlier portion of this period as aide to Governor Simcoe, who seems to have entertained a high estimate of his ability. Givens accompanied Simcoe on the latter's tour to Detroit in the winter of 1793, and during the following year, when Wayne's campaign was being waged, served at Detroit and on the Maumee. He was in Fort Miami when Wayne reconnoitered that post after the Battle of Fallen Timbers, and a few weeks later expressed to Simcoe the conviction that he could have killed Wayne with his pistol.

Givens was made captain in the Rangers on Nov. 19, 1803. On Feb. 28, 1805, he was commissioned in the Fifth Regiment, and his name last appears in the army list for 1806. From the beginning of his army service, the government had utilized his knowledge of the Indians, and about the beginning of the nineteenth century, he was appointed interpreter and agent in the Indian Department. In 1816, he appears as superintendent in York, and in 1830 as superintendent, interpreter, and senior officer of the department in Upper Canada. This post he held until June, 1837, when he retired on full pay. He was with Brock at the capture of Detroit in 1812, and served throughout the war with the rank of major of Upper Canada militia. He died in Toronto in 1846. Data derived from *Simcoe Papers, passim*; *Mich. Pio. Colls., passim*; and information supplied by Francis J. Audet, Chief of Information, Public Archives of Canada, Feb. 13, 1929.