

Endorsed: Montreal June 1st 1808 Isaac Todd & James McGill Esq^r to Jn^o Askin Rec^d y^e 16 & Answ^d the 17^h Aug^t

CONDITIONS AT ST. JOSEPH⁶²

St Josephs 17th June 1808

My Dear Father Your sundry favours of the 13th Nov^r 5th Feb^y & 21st April last I rec^d on the 3^d Ins^t which gave my little family universal joy to find that You, My Dear Mother & all our Relations & friends were well. May the Almighty grant a long continuance of the same to all is our Fervant Prayers.

Madelaine & myself are truly happy to find that Nelly is so well provided for I have every reason to believe that they will be a verry happy couple. Please present our Sincere wishes for their welfare & prosperity.

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In my Letters p^r the Winters Express I mentioned the favourable prospects I had of this place improving & the flattering hopes of additional Society from the large Building that the South West C^o were puting up to wit, Mess Houses, Dwelling Houses stores &c &c & the langu[a]ge held out that the Agents, Members & *commis* were to live at the post. The whole vanished at the arrival of the Agent of that C^o from Montreal. It appears that they have settled their Business w^h the President of the U. S which is that their Goods will be imported into Makina & their Furs exported to any place they please without any Molestation or interruption whatever on the part of the U. S. There is two fine stores & a Dwelling House remain at their Newly improved point: which is half a Mile distance from the Garrison There was a talk at M^r Gillispies arrival from New York of demolishing the Stores & taking them to Makina but I believe they found it would be attended with a great deal of Expençe.

Rum sold at 4/ per Gallon all last winter at this place

62 From the original manuscript in the Dominion Archives in Ottawa.

63 The paragraph omitted concerns the collection of certain debts due the writer.