

Hands and Seals this Twenty fourth day of September One thousand Seven hundred and Ninety Six.

Witness Present	John Askin	(L.S.)
John Askin jun ^r	John Anderson	(L.S.)

Endorsed: Articles of Copartnership made an[d] Ent. between John Askin and John Anderson this 24^h day Sep^r 1796.

FROM ISAAC TODD TO JOHN ASKIN

Montreal 20th Sept^r 1796

My dear Askin I am favor'd with yours of the 20th July the House has several Letters from you of a Latter date which they will Answer. your packs are not all yet got here which prevents finishing the Baling as you will be informed they are going home on your Account, nor his half the packs I bo^t from Teabeau yet come to hand. I am verry sorry you have not advised of the Sale of the House nor any part of the property, I hope yet to hear of the Sale this fall I am perticularly anxious for this as I transacted the business & gave a favorable report to M^r M^cGill which would hurt me to be contradicted. I am told there has been speculators who was in treaty with M^r Baby for Lands on River Sinclair dont miss an oppertunity to sell where even one third can be paid in Cash, even at Less then it cost. M^r M^cGill is of opinion if the house cannot be sold by next Spring at private Sale to sell it at publick, but I would wish to avoid this. I think the *Sagana* will make a good Summer of it, and I depend you will retain for us the preference of Loading her with packs at the Michilam^a for two Trips certain. I hope to hear this fall what prospect you have of securing something certain from the Native right of the Large Indian Grants. Our friend Robertson has I suppose made some arrangement with M^r Ogilvy⁹⁰ which I am not acquainted with as all his packs is to be shipp^d this year by that Gent^m

⁹⁰ John Ogilvie of Montreal, North West Company partner, for whom see *B. H. R.*, I, 208. Ogilvie's mother was the second wife of William Robertson. He was engaged in the Northwest trade for many years. In 1800, he was a member of the Montreal firm of Parker, Gerrard, Ogilvie & Co. Davidson, *North West Company*, 84, 86. He is said, also, to have founded the house of Gillespie, Moffat & Co. He belonged to the St. Gabriel Street Presbyterian Church of Montreal, and in his will, read, Jan. 29, 1820, left that institution £100. See Campbell, *St. Gabriel St. Church*, 237.