

take of my affairs, there will be enough for all M^{rs} M^cGills relations, and I have none of blood to myself, and I therefore wish to be mindful of Friends in Upper Canada, who perhaps stand in need of assistance.

I request you not to loose time, for though in perfect health at present both you & I are getting forward in years—I hope you will be so particular in your description as to render it easy to convey my intentions into Effect, & wishing you the return of many happy new Years, I am, Dear Askin

Your Friend

(Signed) James M^cGill

John Askin Esquire

Turn Over³⁸

NEWS FROM ST. JOSEPH³⁹

S^t Josephs 8th Jan^y 1811

My Dear Charles You favour of the 5th Oct^r last came to hand on the 16th Nov^r per Captⁿ Fearson of the *Ellen*, who from Contrary winds and so boisterous as to drive his Vessel aground & wintering setting in immediately after compelled him to winter here: He will be an addition to our little society *Malgre lui* I feel much for his Wife & Children who no doubt must be verry uneasy not knowing what [h]is fate is. Indeed our *Beau frere* Pattinson must fret a good deal about his Vessel for he cannot possibly know any thing of what has happened or where its likely the Vessel is Fearson will be able to get her of[f] with two Boats as soon as the Ice goes away in the spring for she has not received any injury.

I'm sorry to find that my Friend! Schieffelin has been so unfortunate & I hope long ere this the poor fellow has extricated himself from the horrors of a Joal, tho my Dear Charles you represent the prison bounds extensive & in a pleasant part of the town; yet the verry Idea of being a prisoner is enough to Effect the mind of the person who you know has always been fond of liberty. I am happy to find

³⁸ The manuscript is a copy made by Askin to send to his son Charles in Queenston On the opposite side of the page is the letter of transmittal to Charles.

³⁹ From the original manuscript in the Dominion Archives in Ottawa.