

that you have commenced Business at Queenstown & have every reason to believe you will do well for all those who carry'd on Business at that place made money. The mode you travelled from Lower Canada to the State[s] & U. C must have been verry pleasant especially as it was a Novelty to you. The steam Boats must be an expeditious way of voyageing. Mr Johnston⁴⁰ arrived here on the 18^h Nov^r last quite worn out with the fatigue of his Jaunt to Ireland, tho he says his greatest anxiety was on Lake Huron being 5 days in a fog and within 12 Miles of this place. As Captⁿ Pelkinson is a verry active & Industrious man its not unlikely but he will do well at Johnstown; Thats to say if the principal persons of your place and Niagara gives him every encouragement & support, otherwise nothing of consequence will be made except merely a decent living.

I have not received any letters from Johnny since he left a place called La Bay. as he was always verry punctual in writing to me I have reason to believe that no opportunity has offered which accounts for his silence. Mr Crawford was to have left him at the Sock Villiage and himself to have gone down the Mississipi. John would have preferrd any other way of acquiring a livelehood than the one he has undertaken, but as he had not *les Moyen* or Friends capable of assisting him he was compelled to take the steps he did untill such time as a favourable opportunity offered: *Entre nous* he had an Offer, but on my being consulted I advised one of the Party not to take any rash step by giving up a certainty but to wait with patience untill such time as he

⁴⁰ John Johnston was born, Aug. 25, 1762, near Coleraine, Antrim County, Ireland. His family was one of considerable local prominence and he received a good general education. In 1790, he came to Canada in search of a new career, and falling in with Andrew Todd, accompanied the latter to Mackinac in the summer of 1791. By Todd he was given a fur-trade equipment and despatched to Chequamegon on Lake Superior (modern La Pointe, Wis.), then a Chippewa stronghold. Here Johnston married a daughter of Chief Wabojeeg, thereby establishing an intimacy with the tribe which continued to the end of his life. He subsequently located at Sault Ste. Marie, where he died, Sept. 22, 1828, having figured prominently in the activities of the adjoining region for upwards of a third of a century. He was the father of eight children, all born at the Sault. Lewis, born in 1793, entered the navy, and served on the *Queen Charlotte* in the Battle of Lake Erie; later he served in the British Indian Department and died in Amherstburg in 1825. George, born in 1796, served in the army during the War of 1812, and was present at the defeat of Major Holmes at Mackinac, Aug. 4, 1814. He died at Sault Ste. Marie, Jan. 6, 1861. Jane, born in 1800, married Henry R. Schoolcraft, Indian agent and writer, and died at Niagara, May 22, 1842. Descendants of Johnston still reside at the Sault. See Henry R. Schoolcraft, "Memoir of John Johnston," *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XXXVI, 53 ff.; and C. H. Chapman, "The Historic Johnston Family of the Soo," *ibid.*, XXXII, 305 ff.