

Mitchell, or Lieu^t A. Darragh,⁵⁰ or Lieu^t Hanks Com^g Makinac by this means your Letter or Letters will come safe to hand. The Winter set in very severe. we had upwards of three feet of snow on the ground early in Dec^r but of late the Weather has been much milder than customary for the season. Madelaine joins me in praying you & my Death [dear] Mother for your Blessings and the Children join us in sincere wishes, [for] your & my Death [dear] Mothers Health & Happiness & our Love to my Brothers & sisters & am My Dear Father

Your dutiful Son

Jn^o Askin J^r

Jn^o Askin Esq Strabane

Addressed: John Askin Esq^r Sandwich U. C.

Endorsed: S^t Joseph Jan^y 20^h 1811 Jn^o Askin Jun^r to Jn^o Askin Senior recv^d y^e 20^h Feb^y & [answered the] 26^h

AMERICAN INVASION OF MONTREAL

Montreal 10 February 1811

My dear Askin I received yours of the 24 December last week. I need not tell you, it gave me great pleasure, as you

continuously until the close of the War of 1812. He served under General Harmar in 1790-91, and as a captain in the army of General Wayne in 1792-95. He was in Detroit as early as 1800, when he made a sketch of Ste. Anne's Street which has often been reproduced in print. In 1804, he was commandant at Mackinac, and in the spring of 1805 conducted a detachment of troops by way of Chicago and the Illinois River to establish Fort Belle Fontaine near the mouth of the Missouri. From 1809-11, he was commandant at Detroit, and in the spring of 1812 (while on leave of absence in the East) was tendered the army command which was shortly assumed by General Hull, but illness prevented his accepting the appointment. He was a capable soldier, and it is interesting to speculate what the course of history might have been had he been in command of the army Hull led to surrender. During most of the war, he served as inspector general of the New England levies. At its close, he settled in Franklin, Conn., not far from his birthplace, where he died, July 1, 1837. He married Sally P. Ellis of Connecticut about the year 1800. Two of his sons were army officers, one of them being killed while leading his regiment in the Battle of Antietam. Many of Colonel Kingsbury's papers are preserved in the Library of Congress and in the Chicago Hist. Soc. Library. Data derived from *Norwich Vital Records*; Ashbel Woodward, *Historical Address Delivered in Franklin, Connecticut, October 14th, 1868* . . . (New Haven, 1870), 85-86; Heitman, *op. cit.*, Quaife, *Chicago and the Old Northwest*, *passim*; and Farmer, *Hist. of Detroit*, *passim*.

⁵⁰ Archibald Darragh of Pennsylvania entered the army as second lieutenant of Artillerists, Feb. 27, 1807. He served until the close of the War of 1812, being made captain on Aug. 15, 1814. He was again commissioned captain in the quartermaster's department, April 18, 1818, and was honorably discharged on June 1, 1821. See Heitman, *op. cit.* Darragh's relations with John Askin Jr. were apparently somewhat intimate. An interesting item in this connection is in *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, X, 96.