

prison for payment; as paymt for his injustice to you. The three Deeds come for you are, one for the Prairie Ronde 356 acres, another at River au Raisin for 409 & the third for the house & Lot at the Grand Marrais. These, with 3 Town Lots (for which I have got the Deeds) I fear my Good friend is all you will get, a very poor payment indeed, for all you advanced me, and remained undischarged.

I have wrote M^{rs} Meredith by this opportunity & advised her to come here; as living in England is so very expensive. I heard indirectly that you had advanced M^{rs} Meredith some money; please let me know how much that I may convey its value in Land; My Family must not deprive your Dear Daughter of her rights; Had y^r worthy friend M^r M^cGill Children or relations, I could not think of taking what he offers, nor have I said I would; I have still Lands worth more than what I owe, If they could be sold for their value, & why take his, for which there is not a readier Sale than my own. He has made no Secret of his intentions, respecting my family, in his will, as well as some others; he more than once, in Letters to me said, that as he had no blood relations alive, he would so something for his friends, & even to some, said, I must be served first. I have nothing but "poor Gratitude[""] to offer in paym^t of such great obligations. however unless quite reduced, which thank God is not yet the case, I can not think of being burthensome to my friends. Your property in my hands is certainly growing more valuable, & though the farm got of M^r Smith, is not not yet Sold, I expect it soon will for £300. there was £200 in cash offered, but money has been very scarce, but now there are contracts for Wood etc at Malden, with men employed at the works, which will tis thought cost above £2,000. money must get into the hands of farmers & workmen, who will lay it out, mostly for lands.

My family in general, beg me to return their most sincere thanks, for y^r kind remembrance of them. And I remain My Dear Friend your ever obliged

(Signed) John Askin

Isaac Todd Esq^r London Copy

Endorsed: Strabane April 14th 1812 Copy of a Letter to Isaac Todd, Esquire in London