

pieces which were taken were left but a little way from the field of battle. while we were gone for horses, the enemy came and took them off. the Enemy retreated to the Forty.²⁸ they are said to have left that and are retreating towards Niagara. I dare say the sight of our Fleet does not please them much. There were no Militia in the Engagement, and only four or five Indians. the Indians have behaved shamefully lately, and do us no service whatever. I hope they will do better. I would not give ten Hurons for two hundred of such as we have here.²⁹ I fancy a stand will be made here now. some works are going to be thrown up. our fleet has brought us a small reinforcement, and some Ammunition the last of which was wanted very much.

I am sorry to say that many of our great men below, I mean about Niagara, went and took protections from the Enemy as soon as they came over.

Please give my love to my Dear Mother & to my Brothers & Sisters, and Believe me

Your dutiful & Affectionate Son

Charles Askin

P.S. The Action was fought half a Mile this side of Stony Creek.

John Askin Esq^r Sandwich.

Mess^{rs} Rob^t Grant, W^m Kerby, and five or six more Gentlemen from this Quarter leave this, this Morning to buy cattle & take them to Amherstburgh. they are sent by Government.³⁰ I send you by them a few old English Papers, which are the only ones I could get.

Your dutiful & Affectionate Son

Charles Askin

²⁸ Site of modern Grimsby.

²⁹ In a letter to his brother, James Askin, June 15, 1813, the writer said: "There are 300 Indians crossing [here] also from Lower Canada and we look for 500 from your quarter [Detroit]. I hope we may not be disappointed in getting them for the Indians of the Grand River are not worth a Farthing."

³⁰ For an explanation of this movement, see letter of General Vincent of June 2, 1813, printed in *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XV, 308-309. Robert Grant was a captain in the Second Lincoln Militia. William Kerby's military unit has not been identified. See Irving, *op. cit.*