

are well. If any or all the articles, Johny was sending me in the *Nancy* or what I wrote to Montreal for are got where you are, take such of them as you stand in need of. Your mother joins in Blessing with your tender Father

J. A.

Charles James or Alexd^r Askin with the British Army

CAPTURE OF FORT NIAGARA AND LEWISTON⁴⁹

Tuesday 14th⁵⁰ I staid last night at M^r Hills⁵¹ went and took an Inventory of Asa Baker's Cattle, who fled to the Enemy from that retur^d to Queenston where they were preparing to cross the River, but were disappointed in get[t]ing boats and much against Col. Murray's⁵² wish had to give it up. heard that seven pieces of Cannon had been found buried near Fort George, & some few prisoners were taken on Sunday morning at Niagara & Fort Erie. Wednesday 15th Rode to Ball's Mills to send down flour there where I staid all night. Thursday 16th Went up 20 Mile Creek pressed a number of sleighs to take flour & some whiskey down from Balls Mills to S^t Davids. Rode down to Queenston on Saturday the 18th About 10 oClock at night our troops began to cross the River from near Count De Puissay's to the five mile meadow. the 100th crossed first then part [of the] 41st Reg^t after which the Royals and the remainder of the 41st and last the Indians & militia some few militia were over in the first boats, among whom was Cap^t Kerby⁵³ who was the first person who landed on the other side. the Grenadiers of the 100th Reg^t pushed on towards Fort Niagara surprised the Enemy's picket at

⁴⁹ The manuscript is a fragment of the diary (consisting of several pages) kept by Charles Askin. The earlier portion (not reproduced here) details the doings of the writer from December 7-13 inclusive.

⁵⁰ Dec. 14, 1813.

⁵¹ At Beaver Dams, where the detachment of Colonel Boerstler had been captured on June 24, 1813.

⁵² Lieutenant Colonel John Murray of the 100th Regiment. He was a native of Jamaica and had been an officer in the army since 1792. He later rose to the rank of lieutenant general. He died, Feb. 21, 1832. Irving, *op. cit.*

⁵³ Captain James Kerby of the Second Lincoln Militia Regiment. He was given a sword by the Assembly in recognition of his gallantry at the capture of Fort Niagara. He was subsequently a member of the Legislative Council of Upper Canada. He died at Fort Erie, June 20, 1854. *Ibid.*