

some time ago leave me no Expectation of receiving any return from him up till a Sufficient number of men is given over to him & which he says Col M<sup>c</sup>Kee promised. M<sup>r</sup> Hand & my Son were officers on this side & I believe would have no objections as Such to serve on the other Side. Young M<sup>r</sup> Maisonville was likewise offered a Commission on this Side which he declined accepting.

I am &ca

J Askin

Fr Baby Esq<sup>r</sup>

*Endorsed:* Detroit Nov. 30 96 John Askin To F<sup>r</sup> Baby Esq<sup>r</sup> Deputy Lieut. for Essex County

#### MILITIA RETURNS REPORTED

Detroit December the 7<sup>h</sup> 1796

Sir Agreeable to your wishes, communicated to me yesterday by your Brother M<sup>r</sup> Baptist,<sup>105</sup> I under cover herewith, send you a return of the men, belonging to the Battalion under my Command; who are deficient in Arms, or Ammunition; without waiting any longer for Capt. Fields his report. I therefore was necessiated, to suppose [supply] the deficiency; not only in his Company, and the Vacant one on the river Thames, that he has charge of; but likewise that of Capt. Smiths, who as I before wrote you, will not make any return, untill a Sufficient number of men is Alotted to him, such as form a Company. I beg you will Acquaint Colonel M<sup>c</sup>Kee, that I cannot be Answerable for any Inaccuracy that may be in the return, I now send; nor for its not being sent sooner. The want of officers, & the want of Obedience in some of them is the cause; neither of which I can prevent; what depends on me, I Execute, to the Utmost of my Abilities.

I have the Honor of being Sir, Your Most Obed<sup>t</sup> very Humble Servant

John Askin

L<sup>t</sup> Col Comd<sup>t</sup> of the N E B M

Francis Baby Esquire

Deputy Lieu<sup>t</sup> for the County of Essex at Lassumption

<sup>105</sup> Jean Baptiste Baby, for whose career see *B. H. R.*, I, 376.