

64 pp

CONTENT DESCRIPTION

Askin, John (1739-1815).

Papers : 1766-1963.

ASKIN PAPERS

1766 Memorandum Book of John Askin.

1778 Inventory of John Askin, his Estate taken the 31st of
December, 1778.

MACKINAC HISTORY

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Illustration by Dirk Gringhuls

The Askin Inventory

A Mackinac businessman's
property in 1778

BY GEORGE S. MAY

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ON December 31, 1778, John Askin, a 39-year-old Scotch-Irishman who had been a commissary and fur trader at Fort Michilimackinac since 1764, sat down and took stock of his assets and liabilities, as fellow businessmen in all ages have been wont to do at the end of the year. Although Askin was a highly intelligent man, one who recognized the value of keeping records for future reference, he could not possibly have realized how important the document he was drawing up that last day of 1778

would prove to be some two centuries later.

Nor could Askin, who had just built a new residence for his large household, have known that within less than three years Michilimackinac, on the tip of Michigan's lower peninsula, would be abandoned by the British in favor of a new post on Mackinac Island. But so it happened, and by the time John Askin died in Sandwich (now Windsor), Canada, in 1815, nothing could be seen of the buildings he had owned at Michili-

mackinac, or of any of the other structures at the fort except a few rotting timbers protruding from the sand. Before long, even these few visible remains of the fort had disappeared, and all the former residents of old Michilimackinac had died, taking with them the memory of what it had really been like to live at that eighteenth-century outpost.

Happily, the story of John Askin and Fort Michilimackinac does not end on this sad note. A century and a half later the two were reunited in a



Archaeologists at Michilimackinac

most unusual way in the course of the restoration of the fort by the Mackinac Island State Park Commission. While archaeologists probed the sandy soil at Mackinaw City and uncovered the evidence of the past that had lain dormant nearly two hundred years, historians searched for documents relating to Michilimackinac. Among the records found in the Ontario Archives, Toronto, were some of John Askin's papers, including that long-forgotten 1778 inventory of Askin's estate.

A glance through this document's twenty-nine pages soon confirmed a surprising fact that had been suggested earlier by the findings of the archaeologists excavating the site of the fort—namely, that the old concept of a crude frontier outpost whose inhabitants had few, if any of the comforts of life did not apply to everyone

who had lived at Michilimackinac. Certainly, if Askin's inventory of his possessions is any indication, he and his family, far from having been forced to rough it, had lived as well as did other well-to-do businessmen and their families of that period who were fortunate enough to live in the admittedly more comfortable surroundings of Philadelphia, Albany, or Montreal.

Unfortunately, that part of Askin's inventory in which he listed his "Houses, lands, &c" has been torn off and lost. So we can only guess as to the number of these holdings. Earlier in 1778, however, Askin had written that he was building a two-story house "out of the Fort." This was in the "Subarbs," where Askin noted that there were "near one hundred houses," including some "toler-


able good ones." Up to this time Askin apparently had been living inside the fort, exactly where is not known. Artifacts associated with the foundations of one or two residences thus far uncovered in the fort at least suggest that Askin or some one of equal rank dwelt in the houses that once stood on these sites. Apparently, however, Askin decided to build outside the fort because he needed the room, since at this time, he wrote, "my own family consists of about 20 persons always."

Askin's large household included several slaves, the exact number also having been included on the missing portion of the inventory. From other sources it is known that around this time Askin owned two Negro slaves, Pompey and Jupiter. In addition, in May, 1778, he had written that he needed "two pretty panis [Indian slaves] girls of from 9 to 16 years of age," and he may have had other slaves in his service, also.

Askin since 1774 had had a farm, three miles from the fort, and on his farm he had some animals—two "good milch Cows," three "fatt oxen," two horses, three sows, a boar and "a Smaller Pig," and twenty "fowles." Farmer Askin also lists in his inventory various pieces of farm equipment, such as a scythe, several hoes, a spade, a "Shovell," a "Wattering Pott," two cow bells, an iron rake, two hay forks, and "a Machine to cut Oates."

Among many other "Tools &c" listed by Askin were such things as saws, "plains," bellows, anvils, a trowel, a mallet, "a Large Mortizing Chizell," vises, "a Weighing Beam," cooper's tools, and blacksmith's tools. Obviously, some, if not most of this equipment was used by Askin not to indulge his fondness for do-it-yourself projects but for business purposes. Indians, for example, depended upon blacksmiths at posts such as Fort Michilimackinac to repair their guns and other metal implements.

Although the crown took over nearly all privately-owned vessels on the Great Lakes when the American Revolution broke out, Askin, who before the war had held a virtual monopoly of the modest shipping facilities on the upper Great Lakes, on December 31, 1778, in the midst of the war, still



1788 - 1815 Family records. Births and deaths of some of the
members of the family of George Jacob.

1 item

1785 Letter, Louis Berthe to his father, sending greetings.
January 26, 1785. In French.

1789 Exemplification of the Commission of Association to the
Commission of the Peace for the District of Hesse,
bearing date the 19th January, 1789.

1790 Letter, Capt. David Meredith, "Woolige", to John Askin, received June 10, 1790. Reports on previous letters sent and their health. Congratulates him on "the success of your election for David Smith and of the Prosperous Situation in which you paint the rising settlement around you". Has been busy repairing the Tower in London and tells of efforts to disaffect the army by propeganda. Comments on the beheading of Louis XVI, on Lord Amherst's appointment as Commander in Chief, the fleet preparations, etc.

1791 Typewritten copy of letter, Catharine Hamilton to her father and mother. Tells of the visit of her sister, Archange Meredith, and her husband on their way to Montreal. July 8, 1791. In French.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Kingston, to her mother, Mme. John Askin, Detroit. She and her husband are with Mr. Cartwright "qui est un homme tres agreable comme vous savez", after a trip from Niagara. Is going on to Montreal. Sends greetings to family and friends. July 9, 1791. In French.

Same to same, written from Quebec. Tells of the many kindnesses they have received from friends and sends news of many of them. Sends messages to family and friends. July 22, 1791. In French.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Quebec, to her father, John Askin, written just before sailing for England. Tells of the many kindnesses she received from Mr. Blackwood and other friends. Sends messages to friends and the family. July 25, 1791.

Letter, Archange Meredith, at Anchor in the Downs of Deal, to her mother. Tells of their voyage across the Atlantic. A note from Capt. David Meredith to John Askin. Refers to European situation. August 28, 1791.

Letter, David Meredith, Woolwich, to John Askin, Detroit. Reports on their life at Woolwich, visits to friends, to London, rebellion in St. Domingo, a riot of Dissenters in Birmingham "to commemorate the French Revolution", reception of his wife by his friends and the Regiment, etc. November 2, 1791.

1792 Statement by John Askin concerning Commodore Grant's lot opposite Peach Island. He received an Indian title to the land, later had it measured off and boundary posts put in by Porlier Benac, a surgeon. Protests the claim of Mme. L'Esperance or of her son to any part of that lot. 1792.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Woolwich, to her mother, Mme. John Askin, Detroit. Reports on the health of her husband and young daughter, Anne; on visits from Canadian friends in England, life in barracks at Woolwich, the popularity of the French language; the fashions; social affairs, etc. March 20, 1792. In French.

1792 - continued

Letter, Archange Meredith, Woolwich, to her father, John Askin. Tells of the military activities which keeps her husband busy preparing for a grand review before the King. "You must allow me to congratulate you upon the victory of the Indians. The Gazette gave us a good account. I think the Americans deserve what they have received for attempting to drive the poor Indians from their native ground." Mr. Isaac Todd has sent her a barrel of cranberries. Is very happy in her life at Woolwich. March 20, 1792.

Missing

Letter, Archange Meredith, Woolwich, to her mother, Mme. John Askin. Tells her about the grand review before the King and Royal Family on Sydenham Common. Her husband has heard recently from David Smith, giving news of affairs in Canada. Sends greetings to friends and family. July 5, 1792. In French.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Woolwich, to her mother, Mme. John Askin, Detroit. Tells of the camp at Bagshot Heath where her husband is for a short time, of the garden of their house, of the trend of fashions, etc. July 24, 1792. In French.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Woolwich, to her father, John Askin. Is happy to have her husband back from camp. Mentions visits from Mr. Todd and John Patterson, the uncertainty of their future plans, etc. August 28, 1792.

Letter, Archange Meredith to her mother. Is still at Woolwich, altho' part of the Regiment is expected to be sent away. Has been to London and attended the theatre. Letter, D. Meredith to John Askin, on their military establishment. Their plans still uncertain.

1793 Letter, Archange Meredith, Woolwich, to her mother, Mme. John Askin. Thanks her for "le jolie present que Monsieur Leith ma remis". Her husband has been on duty in the Tower of London, on account of disaffection among the populace. Assures her of the general loyalty of the citizens to the Crown, however. Comments on their heavy expenses which demand "la plus grande economie". Fears a war with France, in consequence of such fears her husband will be away at camp. Has visited Mr. Robinson in London recently and saw "Romeo & Juliet", also a pantomime. Has heard from Leith Robinson and Mr. Todd of the family and of David Smith's election. Is shocked at the beheading of the French King and Queen, etc. January 24, 1793.

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1793 - continued

Letter, Archange Meredith, Woolwich, to her mother, Mme. John Askin. Mentions the birth of her son. Her husband has been appointed Adjutant to Col. Williamson. Regrets finances do not permit her to be with her husband. Her son's name is David William & Mr. Robertson is one of his godfathers. Quotes from a report of the Duke of Richmond praising the conduct of Lieut. Meredith when a French privateer attempted to land at Mythe. Describes her son. Comments on the fashions, etc. July 12, 1793.

1794 Typewritten copy of letter, David Meredith, Woolwich, to his mother-in-law, Mme. John Askin, on family matters. March 20, 1794. In French.

Commission from Alexander McKee, Lieutenant of the County of Essex, appointing John Askin to be Lieutenant Colonel in the Northern Battalion of the Militia of that County. April, 1794. Mutilated.

Letter, Capt. James Allan, South Battalion, Essex Militia, Petite Cote, to Lieut. Col. John Askin, Commanding the Northern Battalion, Essex Militia, covering returns of his two companies. "The men have no other accoutrements than Powder horn & Shot pouch." August 17, 1794.

Letter, Col. R.G.(?) England, Detroit, to Lieut. Col. John Askin, asking for a correct abstract of the Militia of the County of Essex under his command, who served the last fall, "in order that the whole may receive Army Pay agreeably to His Excellency Governor Simcoe's Instructions". October 20, 1794.

1795 Letter, Archange Meredith, Woolwich, to her mother, Mme. John Askin. Her husband is sending crayon sketches of himself, his wife and his children out to Canada with Mr. Robertson. Anticipates promotion for her husband "et quoique le rang soit le meme, la paye n'est pas la meme et la difference nous plaira infiniment." Hopes that her husband will be ordered to Canada when he gets his company. Sends greetings to friends & family. March 13, 1795. In French.

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1795 - continued

Letter, Archange Meredith, Woolwich, to her father, John Askin, Detroit. Reports a very cold and trying winter - laments not having a carriage to dash about it. Wishes to hear what he means to do respecting the posts being given, whether he intends staying in Detroit or moving to the other side of the river. Refers to the scrap between the Americans and Indians. Notes that the war with France has raised the cost of living. Compares the apples of Canada and England and mentions that pineapples are a guinea a piece. March 13, 1795.

Letter, David Meredith, Hopton Camp, near North Yarmouth, to John Askin. His wife has "followed the Camp" this year. Hopes to see peace restored soon. Reports Capt. Mercer expects to leave to settle in Canada. "I suppose you will be very busy the next Spring in making arrangements for giving up the Post to the Americans." A note from Archange Meredith to her father. October 5, 1795.

Letter, Madeline Richardson, York, to her father and mother, Mr. & Mrs. John Askin. Illness has prevented her writing before. Hopes Mr. Richardson might have visited them when they were at Niagara. Has found the winter long. Thanks her father for some apples he has sent. Notes that the Governor has spent the winter at York. November 6, 1795. In French.

Letter, David Meredith, London, to John Askin, Detroit. Is stationed at Yarmouth where his wife and two children are established. Mentions disturbances caused by "the lower orders". Sends greetings. November 30, 1795.

1798 Letter, Archange Meredith, Laughlinstown Camp, to her father, John Askin, Detroit. Thanks him for a gift of 20 guineas. Refers to the capture of the fur ship, the Ariadne, by the French. fears the French will invade Ireland. Writes about the children, the climate, the fashions. "The new Town below the Huron church is, I hope, going on rapidly and I trust when it is completed that you will be allowed more military to reside in it besides the Hangers, for the military used to make it lively as the society amongst them was in general very good." Mentions her sister Therese's marriage to Thos. McKee. January 28, 1798.

Affidavits made by John Askin and by his wife, Archange Askin, as to their marriage and their living children. February 27, 1798.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Laughlinstown Camp, to her mother, Mme. John Askin. Writes on the disturbed conditions in Ireland, ~~stating on the conditions of the camp~~, their life in camp, their children, the fashions, etc. March 29, 1798. In French.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Laughlinstown Camp, to her father, John Askin, Detroit. Tells of the troubles in Ireland. May 24, 1798.

Missing

Letter from Capt. Mercer, London. Has returned to military life. Plans returning to Canada some time in the future to settle. Refers to the marriage of Therese Askin to Thos. McKee. June 7, 1798. Incomplete.

1798 - continued

Letter, Archange Meredith, Dublin Barracks, to her father, John Askin, Detroit. Tells of disturbed conditions in Ireland. Her husband has gone to Salines on his way to Athlone. Reports French aid to Irish rebels. Writes about her children. August 1, 1798(?)

Letter, Archange Meredith, Athlone, to her mother, Mme. John Askin, Detroit. Describes their new quarters overlooking the Shannon. Sends good wishes to her sister, Mrs. Thos. McKee, on the birth of a son. Her husband is very busy now that he has command of a brigade. Writes on her recreations, the theatre, social affairs & reading. December 1, 1798.

Grant to William Harffy of 240 acres of land, Lot 5, Con. 2, Harwich. December 1, 1798.

Letter, Francois Baby, Esq., L'Assomption, Deputy Lieut. of the County of Essex, to Col. Askin, enclosing circular letter from President Russell, with instructions for forming an emergency company. December 30, 1798.

1799 Letter, D. W. Smith, Surveyor General's Office, to John Askin, stating that he has procured His Honour's permission for J.S. to locate a lot near Chatham & to go to Mr. Iredelle for that purpose. April 5, 1799.

Missing Letter, Archange Meredith, Athlone, to her father, John Askin. Notes the difficulty with mail. Writes on the health of her family. Fears an attack from the French. May 27, 1799. I
A note in French to her sister, Adelaide.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Athlone, to her mother, Mme. John Askin. Reports that their fears of the Rebels and also of the French have abated, and they hope for peace before winter. Writes on the health of her family, etc. June 19, 1799. Badly mutilated. —

Letter, Archange Meredith, Grosvenor Place, London, to her mother, Mme. John Askin. Her husband has been given a company and been transferred to Woolwich from Ireland and in the meantime they are enjoying the sights of London. September 29, 1799. In French.

Missing Letter, Archange Meredith, Woolwich Barracks, to her mother, written in French, and one from D. Meredith interlined in English to John Askin. Tells about their quarters, plans for educating their children, the disturbances in Ireland, the ninth anniversary of her marriage & sends greetings to her family. D.M. pleased to be back at Woolwich after three difficult years in Ireland. Expects trouble to continue with France and refers to Napoleon seizing power. Reports trade prosperous. Sends greetings to the family. December 30, 1799.

1800 Mortgage, John Baptiste Barthe, Maidstone Township, to Messrs. Leith, Shepherd & Duff, Sandwich, on Lots 11 & 12, Con. 9, Maidstone, for the sum of £117: 14: 6, N.Y. Curr'y. April 18, 1800.

Letter, David Meredith, on board the Monarch Transport in the Downs, to John Askin, Detroit. Is leaving "in the service of the state" and expects it will be to Gibraltar or the south of France. April 22, 1800.

Letter, James Erskine, Drumcar, Ireland, to John Askin, Detroit. Asks if he is the son of Wm. Askin and grandson of John Preston of Derrycrew, as he wishes to find out if they are brothers. June 16, 1800.

Missing

Letter, Archange Meredith, Woolwich, to her mother, Mme. John Askin, Detroit. Her husband left on a secret military mission but she has heard that he is at Gibraltar. Sends news of her aunt, Mrs. Mercer, and her family, also of her own children. Sends greetings. August 5, 1800. In French.

Grant to John Askin of Lot 4, west side Bedford Street, Town of Sandwich. September 4, 1800.

Grant to the Hon. Alexander Grant of Lot 14, Russell Street, Town of Sandwich. September 4, 1800.
Seal in excellent condition.

1801 Grant to John Askin, Jr., Sandwich Twp., of Lots 2 & 5,
Con. 1, west side of River aux Peches, Naldstone Twp.
June 10, 1801.

Commission, appointing Charles Askin to be an Ensign of
a Company in the Northern Battalion of the Militia of
Essex County. October 24, 1801.

1802 Letter, J. Askin, Jr., to Ensign Charles Askin, Detroit, forwarding him his commission. Advises that it will be necessary for him to take the Oath of Allegiance "when you go over or when most convenient." January 5, 1802.

Grant to Lewis Barthe, Sandwich Twp., of Lot 12, Con. 4, and Lot 14, Con. 6, Rochester Twp. May 17, 1802.

Grant to William Harffy, Malden Twp., of Lot 8 in the first westernmost Concession of River aux Peches, Maidstone Twp. May 17, 1802. Badly mutilated.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Portsmouth, to her mother. Reports the birth of her third child, a daughter, at Gibraltar, returning from there in July to England, staying for a time at Portsmouth. Refers to troubles in the Baby family, etc. In French. Short note to her father in English.

Missing

Letter, David Meredith to John Askin. Is relieved to be away from Gibraltar, especially since the arrival of the Royal Governor the officers had much unpleasant duty. Feels that Britain must always be on guard against Napoleon. November 2, 1802.

Missing

1803 Letter, Archange Meredith, Portsmouth, to her father, John Askin, Detroit. Mentions the return of Captains Landmann & Pilkington from Canada with news of her family. States that they were pleased to leave Gibraltar as duty for the military had become irksome after the arrival of the Duke of Kent. Writes of her children. Is interested in the telegraph, although not a recent invention. Tells about the Whist Club of which her husband is a member.—Wonders if he has moved to the other side of the river. February 1, 1803.

Grant to Richard Pattinson, Maidstone Twp., of Lot 9, west side of River aux Peches, Con. 1, Maidstone Twp. March 1, 1803. Seal in excellent condition.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Portsmouth, to her mother. Reports her family in good health, that war has again been declared and England prepared to receive Napoleon should he attempt an invasion. Deplores the conduct of "notre vieux ami Monsieur Robertson". Is proud of her son David but finds the expenses of educating their children very high, etc. July 5, 1803. Somewhat mutilated.

1803 - continued

Letter, Archange Meredith, Portsmouth, to her mother. Comments on the disturbed and threatening conditions in England and the Continent, the absence of her husband on duty, the health of her children who are ill with scarlet fever, on the misfortunes of "notre ancien ami Robertson", etc. In French.

A note from D. Meredith, commenting on the disturbed state of the Continent, the fear of invasion of England by Napoleon, the continued disturbances in Ireland, etc. August 1, 1803. Somewhat mutilated.

Grant to John Askin, Sandwich Twp., of Lot 14, Con. 5, Maidstone Twp. November 25, 1803. Seal in excellent condition.

Grant to John Askin, Sandwich Twp., of Lot 95, Con. 1, Colchester. December 7, 1803. Seal in excellent condition.

1804 Sale of land, John Askin, Jr., and John Martin, trustees of the Estate of Dagneaux & Antoine Dequindre, to John Askin, Sr., Sandwich Twp., of Lots 13, 16 & 19, Con. 1; Lots 15 & 18, Con. 5; & Lot 21, Con. 6, Rochester Twp. February 1, 1804.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Portsmouth, to her father, John Askin. Reports her daughter Anne ready for boarding school in August. Visited their son, David, at his academy on his 11th birthday, later stopping at Chichester. Mentions the great suspense in England, caused by fear of an invasion by Napoleon. "The alteration in Upper Canada since we left it must be very great. I should conceive the society could not be so pleasant now as heretofore when a Regiment used to be quartered at Detroit." Sends congratulations to her sister, Alice, on her marriage. Expects a visit from Sir George Pownall and Auldjo and his bride. Reports his old friend "still going on sadly". April 28, 1804.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Portsmouth, to her mother. Comments on the fear of invasion of England by Napoleon. Compares the climate of England and Canada. Mentions the new inoculation for small-pox which the doctor advises them to have done on their youngest child, Elizabeth. Reports on the fashions. April 29, 1804. In French.

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1804 - continued

Letter, David Meredith, Portsmouth, to John Askin. Thinks there is less danger of Napoleon invading England but the Government is taking no chances in making thorough preparations to meet such an occasion. Points out the great need of a change of Ministry and expects Pitt will be the next Premier. Sends news of Isaac Todd and "poor" Wm. Robinson. April 29, 1804.

Letter, Archange Meredith, to her father, John Askin, Detroit. Suggests, in order to secure speedier delivery of letters, that he arrange with an old friend in New York that her letters be sent in his care. April 30, 1804.

1805

Power of Attorney from Pierre Letourneau, Sandwich Twp., authorizing William Dickson, Queenston, to receive his patent for Lot 8, east side of the River a Raisin, Rochester Twp. January 10, 1805.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Portsmouth, to her father, John Askin. Writes about the three children, plans being made for an extensive expedition - the destination however being a profound secret. Her husband has recently been promoted to the rank of Major by Brevet, which does not mean additional pay. Sends greetings to the various members of her family. March 11, 1805.

Letter, David Meredith, Portsmouth, to John Askin. Writes about his children. Comments on his recent promotion and hopes for the future. Refers to the downfall of Mr. Robertson who is now living in Billingsgate. Comments on the European situation, Napoleon's activities, the escape of the French fleet to Dominica, Spain's naval preparations, possible action by Russia, trouble in the East Indies, the expected departure of a convoy under Sir James Craig su posedly for the Mediterranean, etc. April 12, 1805.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Portsmouth, to her mother, Mrs. John Askin. Writes about her children, their education, appearance, characteristics, &c. Gives an account of a terrible epidemic which visited Gibraltar, as told her by a friend there. April 14, 1805. Mutilated. Incomplete.

Letter, E. Brush to John Askin, reporting on his negotiations with the American Commissioner for the sale of Indian lands. Reports that there is much opposition to John Askin being reimbursed. June 27, 1805.

1805 - continued

Letter, David Meredith, Portsmouth, to John Askin.
 Refers to reports of a great fire at Detroit - supposes
 the Askin family have removed to the other side of the
 river. Hopes for promotion before long. Reports that
 Lord Nelson has chased the French squadrons from the
 West Indies and the English, under Sir Robert Calder,
 engaged them off the coast of Portugal; that affairs
 in Europe are turning against Napoleon, etc.
 August 13, 1805.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Portsmouth, to her father,
 John Askin. Hopes none of the family suffered by the
 fire in Detroit. Writes about her children, Anne,
 David and Elizabeth. Refers to "that unfortunate man
 Robertson". Sends greetings to the family.
 August 13, 1805. Somewhat mutilated.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Portsmouth, to her mother,
 Mme. John Askin, Detroit. Her daughter, Anne, is now
 at home while the son, David, is still at school.
 Her husband has been ordered on service against
 Napoleon. Sends messages to various members of her
 family. Tells about the Battle of Trafalgar and the
 death of Nelson. In French.
 A note, David Meredith to John Askin.
 A note, Anne Archange Maria Meredith to her grand-
 mother. December 31, 1805. In French.
 Somewhat mutilated.

1806 Grant to Charles Askin, Sandwich Twp., of Lots 11, Cons. 2 & 4, reckoned to the west of Belle River, & Lot 1, Con. 1, between Belle River and River aux Fuces, Maidstone Twp. February 27, 1806.

Letter, Archange Meredith, London, to her mother, Mrs. John Askin, Detroit. Having left Portsmouth, are in London for a short time until they proceed to Woolwich where they are to live. Has had a visit from Mr. Todd. Has had excellent report of her son's progress in school. Mentions that Bonaparte is still a menace. Comments on the new style of hairdressing, etc. March 29, 1806. Slightly mutilated. In French.

1806 - continued

Letter, David Meredith, London, to John Askin. Is sending his letter by Isaac Todd. Refers to the death of Pitt, "the Monster who yet holds the world as it were (except thank God this Island) as subject to his domineering will", the Battle of Trafalgar, and that in St. Dominigo Bay, the return of the Cape of Good Hope to Britain. Was promoted to his Majority on the 29th of December last and they proceed to Woolwich to live. Has with difficulty succeeded in getting his son on the list for Woolwich Military Academy. "I understand that a Gen'l Gore or a Colonel from Bermuda is appointed to Upper Canada but that the Commodore as Senior of the Council will be paid at the rate of 1000 per annum whilst Senior in the Upper Country." March 29, 1806.

Letter, Archange Meredith, London, to her father, John Askin, Detroit. She and her children have visited Nelson's tomb in St. Paul's. Describes a Lord Mayor's procession on Easter Monday. Finds London a very expensive place. March 29, 1806.

Bargain and Sale, John Askin, Sr., Sandwich, to Robert Hamilton, Queenston, of Lot 6, Con. 1, on west side of River Pike, Madstone Twp. June 12, 1806.

Copy of a bond for a Provincial Surveyor. This one in the name of Charles Askin, Sandwich, but unsigned. July 19, 1806. Slightly mutilated.

Grant to Alexander Askin, Sandwich, of Lot 3 on Lake St. Clair between Belle River and River aux Pucees, Lot 14, Con. 2, and Lot 11, Con. 5., Madstone Twp. August 14, 1806. Seal in excellent condition.

Letter, David Meredith, Woolwich, to John Askin, Detroit. Reports his promotion to Lieut. Colonel on the 15th of the month. Understands that the post from New York to Detroit is "quick and regular". Comments on the state of affairs in Europe and expects another move against Bonaparte soon.

Letter, Archange Meredith to her mother. Sends word of the death of Capt. Mercer and of her husband's promotion. In French. September 29, 1806.

Bargain & Sale, John Hambrow, Innkeeper, Sandwich, to John Askin, of Town Lot #10, Sandwich, south east side of Bedford Street. November 4, 1806.

1807 Letter, Archange Meredith, at Sea on the Banks of Newfoundland, to her father, John Askin, Detroit. Left England in a hurry, on her husband being appointed to command the Artillery in Nova Scotia. Have been 8 weeks crossing the Atlantic.
 Letter, David Meredith to John Askin. Trusts his new appointment will be satisfactory. Has a fresh fish for dinner which is a great treat. May 23, 1807.
 Mutilated.

Letter, John Askin to Alexander Askin, Detroit. Makes him a present of a note for 28 N. Y. Curr'y, "I think you may get something now & give him time for the rest, but you would not do right to put him to Goal, though if necessary you might threaten him." June 11, 1807.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Halifax, to her mother, Mrs. John Askin, Detroit. Reports their safe arrival in Halifax after a very trying crossing of the Atlantic and are comfortably housed in Halifax. Hopes her son, who was left in England will soon have a commission in the Artillery. Rumours of a war with America are abroad. Tells of their supply for provisions. Dislikes the constant fog and rain. States that her husband has a wound in the leg which has affected his health but he is very busy preparing defences in case of attack by the Americans. Comments on the social life of the place, etc. November 30, 1807.
 In French.

1808 Instructions from Wm. Jarvis, Secretary, to the Returning
Officer of the County of Kent. May 23, 1808.

1809 Letter, Archange Meredith, Halifax, to her father, John Askin. Sends word of the death of her husband on March 4th, of his funeral, of the many kindnesses she has received from friends. Expects to return to England to arrange her affairs and see her son. Asks her father to send her £25 to meet immediate expenses. Her daughter, Anne, has had two proposals of marriage but her youth & their misfortune delays any decision. May 23, 1809.

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1809 - continued

Letter, Archange Meredith to her father. Writes about her husband's funeral in Halifax. As there is uncertainty whether she will be granted any addition to the military pension, and in view of her heavy expenses, she is hard pressed financially and applies to her father for some assistance. Plans to return to England to forward her claim on the board in person. Expects her daughter, Anne, to be married in about a year, while her daughter, Elizabeth, will go to school under the superintendance of her godmother. If her son can get leave after he gets his commission to accompany her to Canada, promises to visit her parents. Expects to sail about the 15th of August. Mentions many kindnesses received from the Governor Sir George Prevost and his family. Asks him to send his daughter some Indian trinkets as she is forming a museum of curiosities. Incomplete.

1810 Letter, Anne Meredith, Woolwich, to her brother, David,
Royal Academy. Has had to return home because she
was taken dangerously ill and has had to be bled twice.
Plans to spend all the winter in town or the west of
England. Lady Wentworth is to shaperone her "to the
differant public amusements". July, 1810.

1811 Memorial of a Deed of Bargain & Sale, Andre Lepage, miller,
Maidstone Twp., to John Askin, Sandwich, of $\frac{1}{2}$ Lot 4,
Con. 1, west side River Ruscum, Rochester Twp.
July 5, 1811.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Plymouth-Rock, to her father,
John Askin. Is still quite overwhelmed by the loss of
her husband. Sends a miniature of her daughter,
Elizabeth to her family. August 22, 1811.

Deed of Gift, John Askin to Charles Askin, of part of Lot
102, Con. 1, Sandwich. September 2, 1811.

Last Will & Testament of Archange Askin, wife of John Askin,
of Strabane, near Sandwich. September 4, 1811.

Letter, Archange Dickson, Queenston, to her aunt, Mme. John
Askin, Strabane. On family matters. September 11, 1811.

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1812 Warrant of Election for the County of Kent
Isaac Brock, President Administering th
Upper Canada, to George Jacobs. May 13

Warrant of Election for the
County of Kent
Isaac Brock, President
Administering the government
of Upper Canada, to
George Jacob, May 13, 1812.

1813 Copy of letter, John Askin, Strabane, to Richard
Pattinson, Sandwich, warning him of the influence of
the Rev. Mr. Richard being used against British
interests in the district and urges that he be given
"a speedy passage out of the country." May 24, 1813.
Badly mutilated.

Letter, Elizabeth Meredith, Rock House, to her grandfather,
John Askin, Strabane, near Sandwich. Is at school with
"a truly amiable lady". Hopes to see her grandparents
in Canada before too long.

Missing

Letter, Archange Meredith to her parents. Is distressed
over the state of war in Canada. Is under the same roof
with her daughter, Elizabeth, and is permitted to attend
her lessons. November 18, 1813.

Extract from the will of Mr. McGill, dated January 8,
1811, and proved December, 1813, concerning lands devised
by him to John Askin.

1814 Letter, Adelaide Brush, Detroit, to her father, John Askin.
Is sending some newspapers over to him. Reports on
various articles sent her or sent by her across the river.
February 11, 1814.

Letter, R. Pattinson, to George Jacob, River Thames. Is
distressed and vexed that Mr. Astor has refused payment
of his draft to Mr. Miller and promises settlement.
Received June 23, 1814.

1816 Extract from the Parish Register of St. Anne, Detroit, concerning the baptism of Therese Askin, daughter of John and Archange Askin, at Michilimackinac on September 20, 1774, made by Rev. Gabriel Richard, St. Anne's, Detroit, February 27, 1816. In French. Certificate of Jno. R. Williams, Associate Justice, County of Wayne to the effect that Gabriel Richard is the established Rector of the Parish of St. Anne, Detroit, and full faith may be placed in his record. February 27, 1816.

Deed for conveyance of land, George Hamilton and Maria Lavinia, his wife, Barton Twp., to Capt. William Bouchier, of the Royal Navy, commanding H.M.'s naval establishment on Lake Huron, of Lot 14, Town of Hamilton. December 18, 1816. Signatures have been cut off.

1820 Copy of the last Will and Testament of Archange Askin,
late of Sandwich, deceased. August 18, 1820.

1822 Draft of last Will and Testament of Augustin Langlois,
Blacksmith, Sandwich Twp. 1822. Unsigned.

1823 Release, John Bodenham and Samuel Sawyer, Executors of
William Robertson, formerly of Upper Canada, for various
various services performed by Charles Askin, Sandwich,
of all and all manner of action and actions, cause and
causes of action, suits, bills, bonds, obligations, debts,
dues, duties, reckonings, accounts, etc., etc.
November 7, 1823.

1824 Letter, (signature cut away), New Richmond, to Charles Askin, concerning various land matters. October 21, 1824.

Agreement made between Jonathan Kearsley, Register of the Supreme Court of the Territory of Michigan, and the executors of the estate of Richard Pattinson, in regard to some land in that state. September 17, 1824.

1825 Letter, Christian Donaldson, New Richmond, to Charles
Askin, concerning various land matters, evidently
connected with an estate. March 18, 1825.

1827 Letter, Major George Hillier, Government House, to Charles Askin, advising him that the Lt. Governor has given directions to have him appointed a commissioner in the Western District for taking testimony upon oath touching claims to lands under the Heir and Devisee Act. May 28, 1827.

Commission appointing Charles Askin to be a Commissioner under the Heir and Devisee Act. June 11, 1827.
Seal in excellent condition but detached.

1829 Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, Netherlands, to her brother, Charles Askin, Strabane, near Sandwich. States that she has nominated him her "homme d'affaires". Advises him of the serious illness of her daughter, Elizabeth, the expense of which she has had to bear, as E's husband, Mr. Abbott is "very little better than a Soldier of fortune and unhappily in a very expensive Reg't". Asks him to forward her £50 to meet immediate demands. April 3, 1829.

1832 Memorial of a Deed Poll by which Adelaide Brush, Detroit, in consideration of \$300.00 paid by her sister, Archange Meredith, transfers her interest (one-sixth part) in the lands left by their father, John Askin, and his wife. June 13, 1832.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her sister, Mrs. McKee, Strabane, near Sandwich. Is concerned about their cousin Charlotte. Praises her own little granddaughter. August 21, 1832.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, James Askin, Sandwich. Writes about her family and his. September 14, 1832.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to Charles Askin, Strabane, near Sandwich. Writes about various members of the family, of her own health, a power of attorney which she has sent him. Is anxious to have her share of her father & mother's estates converted into cash. Hopes that the cholera has not reached Sandwich, "the scourge having nearly depopulated Montreal and found its way in the United States". In Bruges the doctors advise an abstinence from fruit as a help against the pest. September 14, 1832.

1834 Letter, C. J. Trowbridge to Charles Askin, Sandwich.
Introduces Mr. Woodward who wishes a loan of \$1,000
or \$1,500 to invest in business. June 28, 1834.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to Charles Askin,
Sandwich. Is overwhelmed by the death of one of her
granddaughters and the effect on the child's mother,
Elizabeth, as well as by the death of one of her own
sisters. Thanks him for £100 and for his attention
to her interests. September 29, 1834.

(missing)
Nov. 77

1835 Letter, Charles Askin, Sandwich, to his sister, Archange Meredith. Sympathizes with her in the loss of her granddaughter. States that their brother, James, has lost a son, Alexander, by cholera. reports to her on her lands and the prospect of future sales. June 6, 1835.

1837 Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin, Strabane, near Sandwich. Has not heard from him for some time. Sends letters for him to forward, also a box of souvenirs. January 23, 1837.

Report of the organization meeting of the Western District Agricultural & Horticultural Society, Sandwich, February 20, 1837.

Copy of letter, Charles Askin, Sandwich, to Samuel Street, Niagara, offering lands in settlement of the claim against him by the estate of the late Robert Hamilton. June 27, 1837.

Copy of letter, Charles Askin, Sandwich, to Archange Meredith. Has not received her box yet. Reports the death of Alexander McKee. Has been trying to dispose of their lands in the States although unable to get title to them from the U.S. Government. Hopes to get a good price for some of her lands. Sends news of the family. Having resigned as Clerk of the peace, his income is reduced. July 28, 1837.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to Charles Askin, Sandwich. Thanks him for looking after her interests in Upper Canada. As her daughter Elizabeth's husband does not provide for any member of his family, she herself has that responsibility and her daughter has very poor health. She is naturally pressed for money and grateful for remittances. Sends messages to various members of the family. 2 September 12, 1837.

Same to same. Is sending this letter by a sister who returns to her work among the Indians. Tells about her daughter, Elizabeth, and her three grandchildren. Advises him to send all letters, etc., through her bankers in London. October 6, 1837.

1838 Letter, John Cowan, New York, to Charles Askin, Sandwich. His wife has passed away and he plans to return with his family to Sandwich and will have to ask that Col. Elliott vacate his house. Mentions the attitude of the Patriots in the States towards Upper Canada. February 12, 1838. Badly mutilated.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin. Is disturbed at not having heard from him nor having received a remittance, as she is very hard pressed for funds, "being at the mercy of the most rapacious and unbelieving creditors who will not give faith to what I allege respecting an expected remittance from Canada". Is not in a position to hold out for high prices and empowers him to sell at a sacrifice. March 31, 1838.

Note from the Rev. Angus McDonell, Sandwich, introducing Joseph Borgne who expects to teach school near Ant. Reaume's. Asks him as one of the School Commissioners to examine him as to fitness and direct him how to act in order to obtain the Government salary. May 16, 1838. A note in pencil by Alex. Henry Askin on the Rev. Angus McDonell, dated August 2, 1907.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin, Sandwich. Sympathizes with him and other members of the family over deaths in the recent rebellion in Upper Canada. Thanks him for a remittance and tells him of the hardships and cruelties she had suffered. Is the sole support of her daughter and grandchildren. October 6, 1838.

1840 Account of the River Belize and journey to the Ruins of Palinqué, by Mr. Walker and Lieut. Caddy. April 5, 1840. Incomplete.

Copy of letter, Charles Askin, Sandwich, to his sister, Archange Meredith, sending a remittance and a statement for the sale of some of her lands. April 8, 1840.

Copy of letter, Charles Askin, Sandwich, to his sister, concerning his recent remittance to her and her lands in Upper Canada. Blames the political state of the country for depreciation in land values. Offers her lands for her share in Strabane. April 29, 1840.

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1840 - continued

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin, acknowledging remittances from the sale of some of her lands. Is willing to take lands for her share in Strabane. Sends news of her daughter and grandchildren, also message to her old friend, Monique Babeé, afterwards Mrs. Bellingham, recalling happy times of childhood in her home in Detroit. July 1, 1840.

Letter, Charles Askin, Member of the B'd of Education, Sandwich, to R. K. Oliver, School Teacher, Plympton, Errol P.O., forwarding 15 shillings due him as one of the teachers of Common Schools in the Western District. Suggests that Charles Wiggins act as his agent for further payments. October 9, 1840.

1841 Draft of a letter which Charles Inkin intended sending to his sister, Archange Meredith, suggesting the sale of one of her lots and with the proceeds building on another in Sandwich which could be rented. Comments on conditions in the United States and on relations between Canada and the U.S.A. 1841.

1842 Measurement notes for some land. January, 1842.

Subpoena^s to Charles Askin to attend the Assizes, with certain exhibits. April 15, 1842. Signed by John Prince, Counsel for the Crown.

Part of a letter from William Robertson, concerning the sale of some timber and the purchase of some land. Date torn off but supposed to be written in 1842 or 1843.

1843 Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin, Sandwich. Wishes his assistance in providing an income for her eldest granddaughter who has incurred the displeasure of her father by changing her faith from Protestant to Roman Catholic and who has "cut her off with a shilling". January 4, 1843.

Same to same, advising him that she has drawn on him for £50 Stg., of which she is in great need. April 5, 1843.

Copy of letter, Charles Askin, Strabane, near Sandwich, to Archange Meredith. Warns her that her patrimony is becoming exhausted and that she must not draw on him again without notifying him in advance. States that Archange Ranalds, her brother James' eldest daughter, has left with her husband and daughter for England. June 26, 1843.

Copy of letter, Charles Askin, Strabane, Sandwich, to his sister, Archange Meredith. Promises to do what he can to arrange for an income for her granddaughter but reminds her that in the present depressed state of the country land can be sold only at a great sacrifice and advises her to wait, if possible, until the value of land improves. Asks for information about her son-in-law, Mr. Abbott. Comments on some of his financial difficulties. Reports that the Rev. Mr. McDonald, Vicar General, had tried to find her when he was in Belgium recently but not remembering her name had failed but advises her that the Episcopal clergyman, the Rev. Thomas Earle Welby, would call if he visited Bruges. Sends news of the family. October 19, 1843.

1844 Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin. Is in great need of money and urges him to send her a remittance at once. States that she has had to support her daughter and her children for the last 18 years. January 19, 1844.

Letter from Archange Meredith, Bruges, asking some man for information of her brother. August 2, 1844.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, C. Askin, notifying him that she has drawn on him for £50 Stg. at 10 days' sight. November 20, 1844.

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1844 - continued

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin, Sandwich. Explains that her dire need of funds forced her to draw on him for £50 Stg. "It becomes now more than incumbent on you to put your shoulder to the wheel and extricate me from difficulties caused by the tardiness which has arisen in the arrangement of my American affairs, which has obliged me to alienate part of my yearly income (already very circumscribed) to satisfy people who had already patiently waited three years." Feels that she has met his requests but that he has not agreed to her propositions. December 11, 1844.

1845 Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin. Is determined to have more action in regard to the management of her lands in Upper Canada and asks that he act at once for her, or appoint some one else. Asks for a statement of her property. Wishes Lots 3, 4 & 5, west side at Sandwich be sold immediately and in anticipation will draw on him shortly for a small sum. Thinks that the remaining land should be leased and should bring in a satisfactory return. Acknowledges the receipt of £50 from him and asks for a statement of their account with each other, and hopes he will arrange for the settlement of his account with her. April 25, 1845.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin. Notifies him that she has drawn on him for £50 Stg., at one month's sight. As she does not expect to revisit Canada again thinks all her property should be disposed of as early as possible. August 14, 1845.

Copy of letter, Charles Askin, Strabane, Sandwich, to his sister, Archange Meredith, Bruges. Has accepted her draft for £50 Stg. but points out that he may have to sell more of her estate and at a great sacrifice. Advises her that she has been overpaid, as she was paid in Stg., instead of in Provincial Currency "what is termed here lawful money of the Province". Is sending a statement of her lands and promises a statement of her account. October 8, 1845.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin. Still in need of money, urges him to sell any of her land at all in order to have some funds for her needs. November 29, 1845.

1846 Letter, Archange Meredith, Ostend, to her brother, Charles Askin, concerning the closing up of her affairs in Canada. September 30, 1846.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin. Asks him to remit whatever monies he may have of hers from the sale of her town lot in Sandwich and also Lot 5 on River aux Peches, as she is in the greatest need of money. November 30, 1846.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles, concerning the sale of her lands. Informs him that her son-in-law has offered her £120 Stg. for 50 acres at River aux Peces, 50 acres of Lot 5, West side of River aux Peches and her town lot in Sandwich and she wishes the transaction to be put through at once, lest something happen to interfere. Thinks if her son should retire on full pay he may settle in Canada. Informs him that her son-in-law is quite reconciled with his family. December 27, 1846.

1847 Copy of letter, Charles Askin, Strabane, Sandwich, to his sister, Archange Meredith, advising her as to completion of the sale of some of her property to her son-in-law, Major Abbott. Thinks Major Abbott should visit the place first before deciding to settle there. February 16th, 1847.

Copy of letter, Charles Askin, Strabane, Sandwich, to his sister, Archange Meredith, advising her that he has sent the necessary papers to complete the transfer of some of her property to her son-in-law, Major Abbott. Tells her something of conditions around Sandwich and Detroit. February 19, 1847.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, acknowledging the documents for completing the sale of some of her land to her son-in-law, who however refuses to pay the charges of registry which she will have to do. April 1, 1847.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin, concerning the completion of the documents for the sale of some of her land to her son-in-law. Has drawn on him at 6 weeks' sight for £30 Stg., which is necessary to extricate Elizabeth, her daughter, from "a very dangerous predicament" and asks that some more of her land be sold at once to meet this need. April 30, 1847.

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1847 - continued

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to a nephew who is evidently in the 10th Regiment. Tells him some stories about his regiment, about other former military acquaintances in England, about the property withheld from her brother, about her father's family and his early history. May 11, 1847.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, notifying him that she has drawn on him at one month's sight, for £15 Stg., to meet expenses of her recent illness etc. May 29, 1847.

Letter, Charles Askin, Strabane, to his sister, Archange Meredith. Has had to borrow money to meet her last draft for he cannot sell her land except at a very great sacrifice. Has sold some for \$3.00 an acre to meet former demands of hers. Very few of the immigrants have made their way to that district. Mentions the disease principally among the Irish immigrants. Sold one of her lots on the River aux Peches to P. F. Verhoff. Has returned her quit claim deed to him in the Strabane Farm for correction. Is pleased to hear such good report of Richard Patterson. Does not think Major Abbott is likely to receive rentals from the land he purchased from her to do much more than meet taxes, etc. Suggests that, if he has given up the idea of settling in that district, that he sell at the first opportunity. Reports that surveying for the Great Western Railway is going on between Sandwich and Niagara "about 3 miles below whose wonderful falls a suspension bridge for the passage of its cars is to be built capable of sustaining a weight of 500 tons. Contracts will be entered into on the 1st Oct. next for making 110 miles of the road." August 12, 1847.

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1848 Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin, Sandwich. Writes again about disposing of all the remainder of her lands in Upper Canada, commenting on past transactions, her need of funds, and that she will be drawing on him shortly for £50 Stg. Is convinced that the increase of immigration will improve the value of lands and the demand for them. Quotes from the "New York Courier and Enquirer" about the Railway bridge across the Niagara River. Writes about various members of the family. February 6, 1848.

27

1848 - continued

Letter, Archange Meredith, Ostend, to her nephew, Richard Pattinson. Comments on his approaching marriage and of his apparent plan to settle in Canada. Tells him something of his relatives in and near Sandwich. Regrets she did not return to Sandwich to live after her husband's death "instead of pursuing a bubble" and tells him of her departure from Halifax when she left that place. August 29, 1848.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin. Regrets that she is unable to go to England to see Mary Ronald. Quotes from a recent letter from Richard Pattinson in which he mentions that he hopes soon to make the acquaintance of his relatives in Canada. Accepts an offer of \$2.00 an acre for 130 acres, from her brother James but decides to keep the residue of the tract on the River aux Puces intact, as she wishes to retain some property in her native land. Recalls William Robertson as an old friend. October 28, 1848.

1849 Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin. Asks that he have prepared a Deed of Gift for the 60 acres situated on the River aux Puces, which is the only part now left her not in common with her family, as a gift from her to her grand-daughter, Matilda (Abbott) Fitzgerald, "to be strictly tied down on herself". Mentions having heard from Richard Pattinson while he was in Strabane and that he was delighted with the hospitality her received from his relatives. November 14, 1849.

1850 Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles
Askin. Asks him not to take any further steps in regard
to the Deed of Gift to her grand daughter, Matilda
Fitzgerald for the present, except to ascertain the value
of the 60 acres involved. January 16, 1850.

1851 Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin. Asks him to dispose of any property she may have in Maidstone Twp. "as advantageously as circumstances will admit of". Has changed her mind about leaving any property to her grandchildren, as Col. Abbott, their father, is in very good circumstances and able to look after them. Asks for news of Richard Pattinson and sends messages to the various members of the family. January 30, 1851.

Letter, Archange Meredith, Bruges, to her brother, Charles Askin, sending a Power of Attorney and accepting the services of Mr. Wilkinson "when so highly recommended by my brother, James, and yourself". April 13, 1851.

1855 Letter, F. T. Whibgates(?), near Balaklava, to Miss Annie Caddy. Tells of his experiences in the Crimea. February 26, 1855. Incomplete.

Letter, F. T. Whinyates, Cavalry Camp, near Balaklava, to Miss Annie Caddy. Tells of his experiences in the Crimea. March 17, 1855.

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No Date List of lands belonging to the estate of the late John Askin and Archange Askin, Western District, Upper Canada.

Copy of Notice of Claims to Lands to be made by the heirs of John Askin. Upper part of sheet only.

Part of letter, James E. Brush to John Askin, on various matters, a retaining fee for "Woods", some pickets he needs, the extinguishing of Indian claims by the new proprietors, the loan of a sail for a canoe, etc.

Letter, Ellen Pattinson, ~~Stiere~~ a la Tranche, to her mother, Mme. Askin, Strabane. Writes about the health of her husband and herself. Sends a muslin dress and a pair of shoes for Clemantine Devine, for her first communion. September 21. In French.

Letter, Archange Meredith to her brothers, Charles, James & Alexander. Sends greetings to them. Notes Alexander is with Mr. Brush. Mentions changes since she left Detroit thirteen years before.

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No Date - continued

Letter, Adelaide Brush, Detroit, to her brother, on her health and family matters. May 23, -----

Pictures:

Fort Detroit. 1848.
Fenian Raid. 1866.

Profile of Lieut. George Wulf, Royal Regiment Artillery.
Presented to Miss T. Askin by Mr. Meredith.

A. H. Askin in costume, as he appeared in Detroit Fancy Dress
Ball.

Sketch of a gentleman, signed "James Askin".

Sketch of a soldier in armour, signed "David Meredith".

Clipping from a newspaper, giving an account of the late Charles
Askin, by his son, A. H. Askin, Hamilton.

Diary, ~~1805 - 1806~~ ———

1805-1810