

[40th Letter]

YORK, FEB. 2ND, 1818.

My Dearest Brother

* * * had I not wished to introduce to you Mr. Askin, of Detroit, the son of a gentleman whom while he lived we were in habits of intimacy and whose family have conferred various obligations to us. I believe Mr. Askin is in doubt whether he proceeds to Ireland or returns here. An estate at Strabane, in that country has fallen to him but some difficulty has arisen respecting the legality of those marriages where the ceremony was performed by the officer commanding at the post, and he will be guided by the opinions on this subject; he is an excellent young man * * * [The orphan nieces at school in N.Y are expected to remember Mr. A. as the brother of their kind friend Mrs. McKee probably the wife of the Indian Agent at Detroit]

Grant's [Powell] annual duty commences on — and a few weeks finishes the employment for which he gets \$1,200 per annum. It is certainly great remuneration for brief attention, but it is not sufficient for his support and as he has declined practice [medical] in his profession he is endeavouring to obtain some addition; the difficulty of doing this is more obvious to others than himself for his father's situation prevents him from making those exertions to save his children which he has done heretofore * * * The Governor writes that it is supposed Sir Peregrine Maitland will be his successor his lady is daughter to the Duke of Richmond and niece to Lady Bathurst. I hope their high rank will not induce them to consider the inhabitants of the Wilderness as an inferior race of beings: we have been so long accustomed to the condescending kindness of our regretted Governor and his excellent lady that reserve and hauteur would be ill received, however, we will hope that the higher the better bred. * * * Improved health of Mrs. Cartwright and all the family except Capt Dobbs, who has never recovered a blow he received in the attack on Fort Erie.

[41st Letter]

YORK, MARCH 1st, 1818

My Dearest Brother

Wrote nearly a month ago by Mr. Chas. Askins sent letter to him at Queenston find he has not yet left. Received the children's letters from Mr. Creighton who sent them from Fort George * * Mr. Bethune, the clergyman from Brockville, was re-