

SECTION I

LETTERS AND PAPERS: 1747-1774

## A FEUDAL LAND GRANT

CHARLES M<sup>is</sup> de BEAUHARNOIS Commandeur de l'ordre Royal et Militaire de S<sup>t</sup> Louis, Chef d'Escadre des Armées Navales de sa Majesté; Gouverneur et Lieutenant General pour le Roy en la Nouvelle France et Province de la Louissane.

GILLES HOCQUART CHEV: Conseiller du Roy en ses Conseils, Intendant de Justice, Police et finances en d<sup>t</sup> Pais.

SUR les demandes qui nous esté faites par Eustache Gamelin habitant au Detroit du Lac Erié de luy Octroyer et concédes une Terre Scituée sur le bord du Detroit du Lac Erié de deux arpens de front sur quarante de profondeur tenant d'un Costé vers L'Ouést sud-Ouést a la Banlieuë du fort Pontchartrain bornée par une ligne qui court Nord Nord-Ouést Et Sud Sud Est et d'autre Costé vers L'Est Nord Est à la Terre de Jean Marie Barrois par le devant sur le Detroit du Lac Erié et dans la profondeur par une ligne Est Nord Est et Ouést Sud Ouést joignant pareillement les Terres non Concedes.

Nous en vertu du pouvoir a nous conjointement donné par sa Majesté Avons donné, accordé et concedé, donnons accordons et concedons à Titre de Cens et rentes dès maintenant et a toujours au d<sup>t</sup> Eustache Gamelin pour luy ses hoirs et ayant cause à l'avenir une Concession de Terre Scituée sur le Detroit du Lac Erié de la Contenance de deux Arpens de front sur quarante de profondeur, bornée et sur les Rumbs de vent designée cy devant pour enjoüir, faire et disposer par le d<sup>t</sup> Gamelin ses hoirs et ayant Cause aux charges, Clauses et Conditions cy apres, Scavoir que le d<sup>t</sup> Eustache Gamelin ses hoirs et ayant Causes seront tenus de porter leurs grains moudre au Moulin bannal lorsqu'il y en aura d'établi a peine de confiscation des grains et d'amende Arbitraire; d'y tenir ou faire tenir feu et lieu dans un an d'huy au plustard; découvrir les deserts des voisins à mesure qu'ils en auront besoin, Cultiver la d<sup>t</sup>

Terre, y souffrir les Chemins qui y seront juges nécessaire pour l'utilite publique; faire les Clotures mitoyennes ainsi qu'il sera réglé et a payer par chaqu'un an au Receveur du domaine de sa Majesté en ce pais ou au Commis du d<sup>t</sup> Receveur qui residera au Detroit un Sol de Cens par chaque Arpent de front et vingt Sols de Rente pour chaque vingt Arpent en superficie, faisant pour les d<sup>t</sup> deux Arpent de front sur quarante de profondeur, deux Sols de Cens et quatre Livres de Rente, et en outre un demy minot de bled froment pour les d<sup>t</sup> deux Arpens de front, le tout payable par chaque année au jour et fête de S<sup>t</sup> Martin, dont la premiere année Echera au onzieme Novembre 1748 et continuëra d'année en année; Les d<sup>t</sup> cens portant profit de Lots et Vente, deffaut et amende avec tous autres droits royaux et Seigneuriaux quant le Cas y Echera, Suivant la Coutume de la Prevote et Vicomté de Paris. sera cependant loisible au d<sup>t</sup> Gamelin de payer le d<sup>t</sup> quatre Livres de Rente et deux Sols de Cens en Pelleteries prix du Detroit jusques à ce que il y ait une monnie Courante d'establie: reservant au nom du Roy sur la d<sup>t</sup> habitation tous les bois dont sa Majesté aura besoin pour Charpente et construction de Bâtimens et fort qu'elle pourra Etablir par la suite ainsi que la propriété des mines minières et mineraux s'il s'en trouve dans l'Etenduë de la d<sup>t</sup> Concession et seront le d<sup>t</sup> Gamelin ses d<sup>ts</sup> hoirs et ayant Cause tenus de faire incessamment alligner mesurer et borner la d<sup>t</sup> Concession dans toute sa largeur et profondeur a ses depens et d'Executer les Clauses [portées] par le present Titre et de prendre un brevet [de] confirmation de sa Majesté dans deux ans, le tout a peine de nullité des presentes fait a Quebec le p<sup>re</sup> May 1747.

(signé) BEAUHARNOIS  
(L. S.)

Par Monseigneur  
(signé) BENARD

(signé) HOCQUART  
(L. S.)

Par Monseigneur  
(signé) DESCHESNEAUX

NOUS COMMANDANT pour le Roy au Detroit  
SUR les demandes qui nous ont été faites par Jacques  
Pilet propriétaire de la terre cy dessus Concedée par le

Charles M.<sup>rs</sup> de Beauharnois

Commandeur de l'ordre Royal et Militaire de St Louis  
Chef d'Escadre des Armées Navales de sa Majesté,  
Gouverneur et Lieutenant General pour le Roy en la  
Nouvelle France et Province de la Louisiane.

Gilles Hocquart Secr. Conseiller du Roy en  
ses Conseils, Intendant de Justice, Police et finances  
en d.<sup>t</sup> Pais.

Sur les demandes qui nous est  
faites par Eustache Gamelin habitant au Detroit  
du Lac Erié de luy octroyer et concéder une Terre  
située sur le bord du Detroit du Lac Erié de  
deux arpens de front sur quarante de profondeur tenant  
d'un costé vers l'ouest sud. Ouest a la Ban lieue du  
Fort Pontchartrain bornée par une ligne qui court  
nord nord. Ouest. Et sud sud est et d'autre costé  
vers l'est nord est à la Terre de Jean Marie  
Barrois par le devant sur le Detroit du Lac Erié  
et dans la profondeur par une ligne Est Nord Est  
et Ouest Sud Ouest joignant parallèlement les  
Terres non Concedes.

Nous en vertu du pouvoir  
à nous conjointement donné par sa Majesté,  
avons donné, accordé et concédé, donnons,  
accordons et concedons à titre de Cens et rentes  
viés maintenant et a toujours au d.<sup>t</sup> Eustache  
Gamelin pour luy ses heirs et ayant cause à  
l'avenir une concession de Terre Située sur le  
Detroit du Lac Erié de la contenance de deux

GRANT TO LAURENCE EUSTACHE GAMELIN

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titre et autre part de luy accorder une continuation de quarante Arpens de profondeur au bout de cette terre citée cy dessus, Avons en vertu des pouvoirs que nous en a donné Monsieur le General, donné et Accordé au d<sup>e</sup> Pilet la ceste Continuation de deux arpents de large et de quarante de profondeur, aux memes alignements Cens et Rentes et droits et servitudes portés au Contract cy devant dont le premier terme de payment echeoira au onze Novembre Mil sept cent Cinquante neuf. Plus delaisser entre la première Concession et la d<sup>te</sup> Continuation une distance de 36 pieds de large au moins pour servir de chemin public aux habitants qui obtiendront les Continuation. fait au Detroit le quinze Mars 1759

(signé) Piquotée de Belestre

*Translation*

CHARLES MARQUIS de BEAUHARNOIS,<sup>1</sup> Commander of the royal and military order of St. Louis, Commodore of the royal fleet, Governor and Lieutenant General for the King in New France and the province of Louisiana;

GILLES HOCQUART,<sup>2</sup> Knight, King's Councilor, Comptroller of Justice, Police and Finance in the said countries.

On the petition presented to us by Eustache Gamelin,<sup>3</sup> an inhabitant of the Straits of Lake Erie, praying that we

<sup>1</sup> Charles de la Baische, Marquis de Beauharnois, was governor of Canada from August, 1726, to Sept. 19, 1747. He was born about the year 1670 and is supposed to have been a natural son of Louis XIV. He was trained for the navy, and after his term as governor of New France had expired he returned to France and became lieutenant general of the naval forces, but died in June, 1749. A later descendant of the family was the Empress Josephine's first husband. See sketch in *Wisconsin Historical Collections*, XVII, 6-7.

<sup>2</sup> Gilles Hocquart was intendant of Canada from Feb. 21, 1731, to Sept. 1, 1748. He was recalled from office at the same time as Governor Beauharnois, but owing to the non-arrival of his successor in office he remained in Canada a year longer. His commission describes him as already "commissary general of the marine, commander in Canada." The intendant had the supervision of the administration of justice, and acted as chief justice in all civil matters, and as a final court of appeal. He presided over the council during the absence of the governor, supervised colonial finances, and exercised many other functions. By the home government the intendant was viewed as a check upon the governor, and the holders of the two offices were frequently at variance. Hocquart enjoys the reputation of having been an honest and conscientious official.

<sup>3</sup> The Gamelin family was both prominent and numerous represented in eighteenth-century Detroit. Its American founder was Michael Gamelin *dit* Lafontaine,

would grant and concede to him a tract of land situated on the said Straits, of two arpents in front by forty in depth, joining on the west-south-west side the suburbs of Fort Pontchartrain, bounded by a line running north-north-west and south-south-east, and on the other side towards the east-north-east the land of Jean Marie Barrois, in front by the Straits of Lake Erie, and in rear by a line running east-north-east and west-south-west, joining also the unceded lands;

We, in virtue of the power intrusted to us jointly by His Majesty, have given, granted and conceded, and do give, grant and concede under the title of *cens et rentes*, from henceforth and forever, unto the said Eustache Gamelin, for himself, his heirs and assigns hereafter, a concession of land lying and being on the Straits of Lake Erie, containing two arpents<sup>4</sup> in front by forty in depth, bounded by and on the rhumb lines hereinabove designated, to be enjoyed, held and disposed of by the said Gamelin, his heirs and assigns, subject to the charges, clauses and conditions hereinafter mentioned, to wit: That the said Eustache Gamelin, his heirs and assigns, shall be held to carry their grain to be ground at the common mill, when one shall have been erected, on pain of the confiscation of the said grain and of an arbitrary fine; that he shall keep, or cause to be kept thereon house and home within one year at the latest;

a native of St. Aubin, diocese of Blois, France, who became a surgeon and migrated to Canada, where in 1663 he married Margaret Crevier, a native of the diocese of La Rochelle and widow of James Fournier. Their grandson, Laurence Eustache Gamelin, born in 1704, married in 1740 Mary Joseph Dudevoir *dit* Lachine, born in 1721, daughter of Claude Dudevoir *dit* Lachine and Barbara Cardinal. Laurence Gamelin engaged in the Indian trade and was living at Detroit as early as 1741. In 1755 he was captain of militia; he was buried at Detroit, March 7, 1771. Mary Joseph Dudevoir was buried, Jan. 10, 1803. They reared a large family of children. Information adapted from Father Christian Denissen's manuscript compilation of Detroit genealogies in the Burton Hist. Coll.

<sup>4</sup> The arpent was a French linear measure of slightly less than 193 feet. The tract here granted was one of the characteristic French "ribbon" farms, whose existence has proved such a powerful factor in determining the arrangement of streets and holdings in modern Detroit. It had a frontage of about 386 feet on the river and extended back into the interior almost a mile and half. It lay immediately east of the Commons and was owned and occupied by John Askin prior to his removal to the south side of the river in 1802, when it was occupied, and subsequently (1806) bought, by Elijah Brush. It is legally designated as Private Claim 1, and is still popularly known as the Brush farm.

that he shall open the clearings of his neighbors as they may require it; that he shall cultivate the said land, and leave therein the roadways which shall be found necessary for the public use; that he shall make the division fences as the land shall become settled; that he shall pay each and every year to the receiver of His Majesty's domain in this country, or to the clerk of the said receiver residing at Detroit, one sol of cens for each arpent in front and twenty sols of rente for every twenty arpents in superficies, making for the said two arpents in front by forty in depth two sols of cens and four livres of rente, and moreover half a bushel of wheat for the said two arpents in front, the whole payable every year on the festival day of St. Martin, the first year whereof shall become due on the eleventh day of November, 1748, and thus continue from year to year, the said cens bearing profit of *lods et ventes*,<sup>5</sup> on pain of loss and fine, and all other royal and seigniorial rights, when the same become due, agreeable to the Custom of the Provostship and Viscounty of Paris;<sup>6</sup> however, it shall be at the option of the said Gamelin to pay the said four livres of rente and two sols of cens in furs at Detroit prices until a current money shall have been established; reserving in the King's name on the said habitation all the timber which His Majesty may require for the building of ships and such forts as he may hereafter erect, as well as the ownership of the mines, ores and minerals if any be found within the extent of the said concession; and the said Gamelin, his heirs and assigns, shall

<sup>5</sup> Feudal grants were made either *en roture* or *en fief*. Lands granted *en roture* were town lots or small farms, as distinguished from large tracts, which were granted *en fief*. All the feudal grants at Detroit were made *en roture*. By virtue of an edict of March 20, 1673, the King had the right to an alienation fine, called *lods et ventes* (privilege of consent and sale) upon any sale or exchange of lands granted by the Crown *en roture*, which were made by a title called lease for *cens* or *cens et rentes*. This alienation fine amounted to one-twelfth of the value of the land, but in practice one-fourth of the fine was commonly remitted.

<sup>6</sup> Feudal law was extremely complex, so much so that the term "system," as applied to the feudal régime, is largely a misnomer. The Custom of Paris was a codification of feudal law and practice for the district centering around Paris, first drawn up in 1510 and subsequently revised in 1579-80. By a decree of 1664 Louis XIV established the Custom of Paris as the basic law of New France. Thereby the feudal system, already decaying in France, obtained a fresh lease of life in the New World. The Custom of Paris continued to operate at such places as Detroit, Green Bay, and Prairie du Chien—in fact wherever French population and customs were found—until well into the nineteenth century.



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be held to have the said concession immediately measured and bounded in its whole width and length at his own cost, and to execute the clauses mentioned in this title deed, and to take out a patent of confirmation from His Majesty within two years; the whole on pain of nullity of these presents.

Done at Quebec, May 1, 1747.

(Signed) BEAUHARNOIS  
(L. S.)

(Signed) HOCQUART  
(L. S.)

By command of his Lordship  
(Signed) BENARD

By command of his Lordship  
(Signed) DESCHESNEAUX

WE, COMMANDANT for the King at Detroit:

On the petition presented to us by Jacques Pilet,<sup>7</sup> proprietor of the tract of land above conceded by title and otherwise, to grant to him a continuation of forty arpents in depth at the rear of the said tract, by virtue of the power intrusted to us by the [Marquis de Vaudreuil,<sup>8</sup> Governor and Lieutenant] General, do give and grant unto the said Pilet the said continuation of two arpents in breadth by forty in depth, corresponding in alignment, quit rents, mutation fines, rights and conditions with the above mentioned contract, the first payment whereof shall become due on the eleventh of November, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-nine. Moreover, between the former concession and the said continuation there shall be allowed a space of at least 36 feet in width for a public road for such inhabitants as shall receive continuations.

Done at Detroit, March 15, 1759.

(Signed) Picoté de Bellestre<sup>9</sup>

<sup>7</sup> No record of Jacques Pilet's career has been found. Presumably he is the individual who, according to Lieut. George McDougall, lived on Belle Isle for several years prior to the British conquest, and who is also reported to have been a particular friend of Pontiac. See *Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society Collections*, VIII, 356 and X, 240.

<sup>8</sup> Pierre François Rigault, Marquis de Vaudreuil, was born in Canada in 1698, the son of a former governor of Canada of the same name. He entered the army and attained the rank of major. In 1733 he was governor of Three Rivers, and from 1743-53, of Louisiana. In the spring of 1753 he left Louisiana for France, and there, on Jan. 1, 1755, was commissioned governor of Canada. He continued in this office until the English conquest of Canada. He died at Quebec in 1793. See sketch in *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, XVII, 31 and XVIII, 150.

<sup>9</sup> François Marie Picoté, Sieur de Bellestre, was the last French commandant at Detroit. He was born in Montreal in 1719 and there married and reared his family.



## A MARRIAGE DOT

Pardevant le notaire rōial au Detroit y resident Soussigné, fut present Sieur Jacques Campau Pere habitant Demeurant au Detroit logé en la maison du S<sup>r</sup> Desmouchelle Size ruë S<sup>te</sup> anne, où il a fait election de Domicile pour lexecution du contenu aux presentes, lequel en reconnoissance des bons services que luy a rendus detous tems Sieur Lōuis Campau son fils, et notamment dans une grosse maladie qui lui est Survenuë ces anneés dernieres aux fraits delaquelle, le d. S<sup>r</sup> Lōuis Campau a fourni autant queles affaires de sa famille luy ont pu permettre, a fait transport et delaissement au dit S<sup>r</sup> son fils Ce acceptant pour ce comparution d'un emplacement Siz ruë S<sup>te</sup> anne au fort du Detroit de la consistance de vingt peids de large sur la ditte ruë, Entre S<sup>r</sup> Barthe et S<sup>r</sup> Desruissaux reconnoissant qu'il luy a dejà fait Verbalement la presente cession il y a plussieurs années sans aucune reserve de sa part, pour par le dit Cessionnaire ses hoirs et aiant Cause user, faire Jouir et disposer du dit emplacement en toute propriété et a perpetuité dans toute sa largeur et profondeur sans aucune chose en retenir ou Excepter par le dit S<sup>r</sup> Cedant lequel a promis en outre faire ratifier ces presentes par ses Enfants pour la plus grande sureté du Cessionnaire et de ses aiant Cause, en les faisant Consentir aux renonciations requises de façon que de leur part il ne puisse en arriver aucune trouble aux personnes qui pourront a la venir faire lacquisition du dit emplacement; Et a linstant de la passation des presentes est Comparu en personne le dit Sieur Louis Campau Cessionnaire habitant demeurant au d<sup>t</sup> Detroit en sa maison size ruë S<sup>te</sup> anne où il a fait election de Domicile pour l'execution du Contenu cy apres, avec Marie Robert sa femme qu'il autorise a l'Effet que Ensuit, lesquels ont déclaré qu'en faveur du mariage de D<sup>lle</sup> Thereze

In early manhood he embarked upon a military career which led him repeatedly into the wilderness for long periods of time. In 1739 he engaged in a campaign against the Chickasaw. He was in the West and Northwest at various times, at Detroit in 1747, and at St. Joseph (modern Niles, Michigan) for a considerable period about this time. He came to Detroit as commandant in 1758, and remained to surrender the post and the Northwest to Major Robert Rogers in the autumn of 1760. He thereupon retired to Canada, where he aided in repelling the invasion of the American colonists in 1775. He died at Quebec in May, 1793. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XXXIV, 336-40.

Campau leur fille avec S<sup>r</sup> André Barthe ils ont donné et donnent le dit emplacement sans reserve a la ditte D<sup>lle</sup> leur fille Ce acceptant par le d<sup>t</sup> S<sup>r</sup> son mari, pour luy etre et demeurer propre et aux siens pour en Jouir et disposer a toujours et le prendre en avancement d'hoirie, le dit Emplacement prisé a la somme de Deux Cens Cinquante livres, quoi qu'il n'ait été fait aucune mention de la sus ditte somme au Contrac de Mariage des dits Sieur et Dame Barthe et neanmoins Vaudra la presente Donation non obstant revocation et toutes choses à ce contraires. promettant au Surplus le dit S<sup>r</sup> et Dame Campau indemnifer le S<sup>r</sup> Barthe dans le cas qu'il fut evincé du dit Emplacement luy enassurant la jouissance sous lobligation et hypoteque De tous leur biens presents et avenir, car ainsy &<sup>o</sup> et ne seront les cessions et Donations cy dessus declarées Sujettes a insinuations, vu que le transport qu'a fait le dit Jacques Campau au d. S<sup>r</sup> son fils du d<sup>t</sup> emplacement n'a d'autre motif que celuy de la rembourser d'une parties des sommes qu'il a païées pour sa maladie. promettant &<sup>o</sup> renoncant &<sup>o</sup> obligéant &<sup>o</sup> fait et passé au Detroit etude du d<sup>t</sup> Notaire apres midy le trois Juin mil sept Cens Cinquante presence des S<sup>r</sup> alexis Desruissau et Zacharie Cicot negotiants demeurants en ce fort temoins lesquels ont avec le S<sup>r</sup> Jacques Campau, le S<sup>r</sup> Louis Campau la ditte Dame Marie Robert sa femme le S<sup>r</sup> Bondy et notaire signé a la minutte lecture faire.

Navarre

Et apres la passation des presentes, les S<sup>rs</sup> André Barthe et Louis Campau ont réglé entr'eux les affaires qu'ils ont euës Du passé Jusqua ce jour au moyen dequoi le S<sup>r</sup> Barthe a reconnu avoir reçu du S<sup>r</sup> Louis Campau en avancement d'hoirie et des droits qu'pourront appartenir a D<sup>lle</sup> Thereze Campau Epouse du S<sup>r</sup> Barthe, La somme de Douze Cens livres y compris le prix de leemplacement a luy cédé au contract cy Joint, de laquelle somme de Douze Cens livres le d<sup>t</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Barthe promet tenir Compte au d<sup>t</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Louis Campau a Ses Enfants lors des Partages qui procurront se faire a la venir de la succession et droits successifs a Echoir aux heri-

tiers du d<sup>t</sup> S<sup>r</sup> et Dame Louis Campau et ont Signé a la minutte lecture faite. Louis Campau, Barthe Navarre notaire.

Pour Copie

Navarre

A premiere Expedition

*Endorsed:* transport fait par S<sup>r</sup> Jacques Campau le Pere d'un Emplacem<sup>t</sup> au Detroit a S<sup>r</sup> Louis Campau Idem par cidernier au S<sup>r</sup> Barthe 3<sup>e</sup> Juin 1750  
Première Expedition

### *Translation*

BEFORE the undersigned royal notary of Detroit there resident, appeared Jacques Campau,<sup>10</sup> senior, habitant, living at Detroit, in the house of Desmouchelle, on Ste. Anne Street, which house he names as his dwelling place for the execution of the contents of these presents, who, because of the kindness he at all times has received from his son, Louis Campau,<sup>11</sup> and especially during his severe illness of recent years, the expenses of which the said Louis Campau has furnished to the extent that his own domestic affairs would permit, has conveyed and relinquished to the said son, who accepts the

<sup>10</sup> Jacques Campau was a grandson of Leonard Campau and his wife, Frances Mäuger, who were natives and residents of France. Their son Etienne, born in 1638, migrated to Canada, where he married at Montreal, Nov. 26, 1663, Catherine Paulo, a native of La Rochelle. Etienne Campau was a mason by trade and resided at Ville Marie, Montreal. To him and Catherine Paulo were born numerous children, descendants of some of whom figure prominently in the history of Detroit. Their ninth child was Jacques Campau, who was born at Montreal, May 31, 1677, and married there on Dec. 1, 1699, Cecilia Catin, daughter of Henry Catin and Jane Brossard. In the autumn of 1708 he removed with his family to Detroit, where in 1734 he obtained from the government the grant of land lying between Mt. Elliott and Beaufait avenues, now known as Private Claim 18, or the Meldrum farm. He followed the trade of toolsmith. He was buried May 14, 1751. He was the father of a large family. Denissen, *op. cit.*

<sup>11</sup> Jean Louis Campau, the eldest child of Jacques Campau and Cecilia Catin, was born at Montreal, Aug. 26, 1702. He married at Detroit, Aug. 26, 1724, Mary Louisa Robert, widow of Jean Francis Peltier and daughter of Pierre Robert and Angelica Ptoloméé, who was born at Lachine, Dec. 15, 1698. They reared a large family of children, one of whom is noted in the present document. Jean Louis Campau obtained a grant of land east of the fort, July 5, 1734, since known as Private Claim 733, or the Chêne farm, extending eastward from Chene Street toward Joseph Campau Street. Jean Louis Campau was buried at Detroit, March 15, 1774; Mary Louisa Robert was buried, April 2, 1776. Denissen, *op. cit.*



same by this act, a lot, situated on Ste. Anne Street, within the fort of Detroit, with a frontage of twenty feet on the said street, between Mr. Barthe<sup>12</sup> and Mr. Des Ruisseaux<sup>13</sup> admitting that he has already given the said lot verbally several years ago, with no reservation on his part, for the said grantee, his heirs and assigns, to enjoy and dispose of the said lot in full ownership and forever, throughout its whole extent of length and breadth with no exception

<sup>12</sup> Charles Andrew Barthe of Detroit, father-in-law of John Askin and of Alexander Grant. The founder of the Barthe family in America was Theophile Barthe, a native of Gascony, born in 1695, who migrated to Canada, where he held the title of "gunsmith to the King." On March 18, 1721, he married at Montreal, Margaret Charlotte Alavoine, whose father, Charles Alavoine, was captain of the militia. We have not learned when the family moved west to Detroit, but Charles Andrew, eldest son of Theophile and Margaret Barthe, born at Montreal, Feb. 22, 1722, married at Detroit, April 24, 1747, Mary Therese Campau, a native of this place; and Pierre, another son of Theophile and Margaret Barthe, married here on March 3, 1760, Mary Charlotte Chapoton, also a native of the place. Pierre Barthe was a gunsmith, and lived on St. Louis Street. Charles Andrew is referred to in 1756 as "Arquebusier" (gunsmith) of the post and as "Grand Voye" (chief overseer of roads) of the post and its dependencies. Prior to 1763 he bought from Eustache Gamelin the farm known later as Private Claim 1, or the Brush farm. Both Charles and Pierre Barthe established wide-flung family connections, and many present-day Detroit families trace connection with them. To Charles and Mary Barthe twelve children were born between the years 1748 and 1765. Six died in infancy; among the others who are mentioned in these letters were Marie Archange (wife of John Askin), Therese (wife of Commodore Alexander Grant), Jean Baptiste, and Louis Theophile (or Louison). Probably Lavoine Barthe was also a son of Charles and Mary, but his identity has not been established. Charles Andrew Barthe died at Detroit, March 14, 1786, and was buried two days later. Denissen, *op. cit.*

<sup>13</sup> Julius Trotier, born at Ige, in Perche, France, in 1590, married Catherine Loyseau. He migrated to Canada about the year 1645 and was buried at Three Rivers, May 10, 1655. The couple had two children, Julian Trotier, born in France in 1636, and Antoine Trotier, Sieur Des Ruisseaux, also born in France. Antoine Trotier married at Three Rivers, Sept. 2, 1663, Catherine Lefebvre, a native of that place. She was buried at Batiscan, Nov. 20, 1705; he was buried there, Dec. 6, 1706.

Of the children of Antoine Trotier and Catherine Lefebvre several lived and died in Lower Canada. One daughter, Catherine Trotier *dit* Beaubien, born in 1676, married at Batiscan, May 3, 1696, Jean Cuillerier, a native of Montreal. He died before 1712 and Catherine married (second) François Picoté de Bellestre, widower of Ann Frances Bouthier and son of Pierre Picoté de Bellestre and Mary Pars. François Picoté de Bellestre was an army officer, and was assigned to Fort Ponchartrain at Detroit, when his brother-in-law, Alphonse de Tonty, was commandant here. He was buried here, Oct. 9, 1729.

One of his wife's brothers was Alexis Trotier *dit* Des Ruisseaux, the subject of the present sketch. He was born at Champlain, Oct. 21, 1688, and married at Detroit, Jan. 6, 1735, Mary Louisa Roy. She was buried, Dec. 3, 1735, and Alexis married (second) Mary Catherine Godfroy, daughter of Jacques Godfroy de Mauboeuf and Mary St. Onge *dit* Chêne, Dec. 30, 1739. He was the first trustee of Ste. Anne's Church, and the first captain of the local militia. He was buried, June 5, 1769; Mary Catherine Godfroy was buried under the church, July 21, 1777. They had four children, all of whom died in infancy. Denissen, *op. cit.*



whatever by the said grantor, who further promises to have these presents ratified by his children for the greater security of the grantee and his assigns by having them consent to the requisite renunciations so that no future trouble because of them may occur for any one who shall acquire title to the said lot; and at the moment of the writing of these presents has appeared in person, the said grantee, Louis Campau, habitant, living at the said Detroit, in his house situated on Ste. Anne Street, which house he names as his dwelling place for the execution of the contents hereinafter expressed, with Marie Robert, his wife, whom he authorizes as such for the purpose of what follows, who have declared in favor of the marriage of their daughter, Therese Campau,<sup>14</sup> with André Barthe, and have given and do give the said lot without reserve to the said young lady, their daughter, accepting the same for the said gentleman, her husband, to belong to her and to remain her own possession and that of her heirs to enjoy and dispose of forever and taking it in advance as her inheritance, the said lot being valued at the sum of two hundred and fifty livres, although there has been no mention of this sum in the marriage contract of the said Mr. and Mrs. Barthe, but nevertheless, the present grant will be worth that sum without any repeal whatever and anything else to the contrary notwithstanding. Moreover, the said Mr. and Mrs. Campau promise to indemnify the said Mr. Barthe in case he should be evicted from the said lot, assuring to him its possession under bond and mortgage of all their present and future property, for their &c., and the said cessions and grants above mentioned will not be subject to registration seeing that the conveyance which the said Jacques Campau has made to his son of the said lot has no other motive than to reimburse his son for a part of the sum paid for his illness. Promising &c., renouncing &c., obliging &c. Executed at Detroit in the office of the said notary, in the afternoon of June the third, one thousand seven hundred and fifty, in the presence of Mr. Alexis Des Ruisseaux and

<sup>14</sup> Mary Therese Campau, the third child of Jean Louis Campau and Mary Louisa Robert, was born at Detroit, Feb. 7, 1729. She married Charles Andrew Barthe, April 24, 1747, and was buried June 13, 1765. For further data concerning her see *ante*, 34.

Zachary Cicotte,<sup>15</sup> merchants, living in this fort, witnesses, who have signed the original, after reading, with Jacques Campau, Louis Campau, the said Marie Robert, his wife, Mr. Bondy<sup>16</sup> and the notary.

Navarre<sup>17</sup>

And after the execution of these presents, André Barthe and Louis Campau have arranged between them the business which they have transacted from the past until this day, because of which the said Mr. Barthe acknowledges to have received from Mr. Louis Campau in advance of inheritance and claims which may belong to the said Therese Campau, wife of Mr. Barthe, the sum of twelve hundred livres including the price of the lot ceded to her by the annexed contract, which sum of twelve hundred livres the

<sup>15</sup> The Detroit Cicottes are descended from William Cicotte (Chiquot, Cicot, Sicotte), who married Jane Fafard and lived on the island of Oleron in the diocese of La Rochelle, France. Their son, Jean, born there in 1631, came to Canada and on Oct. 23, 1662, married Margaret Maclin, who was the daughter of Nicolas Maclin and Susanne Larose of the parish of Sesanne, in Brittany. Jean Cicotte was buried at Montreal, June 8, 1667, leaving two children, Catherine and Jean. Catherine, born Oct. 24, 1663, married at Montreal on Nov. 27, 1679, Joseph Huet *dit* Duluth (Dulude), a native of the city of Dulude in France.

Jean Cicotte, the immediate progenitor of the Detroit line, was born at Montreal, March 22, 1666, and married at Boucherville, March 20, 1697, Magdelene Lamoreux, a native of Montreal, daughter of Louis Lamoreux and Frances Boivin. Their second son, Zacharias Cicotte, born in 1708, married at Detroit, Jan. 8, 1736, Mary Angelica Godfroy, who was born at Detroit, Nov. 21, 1720, daughter of Jacques Godfroy de Mauboef and Mary St. Onge *dit* Chêne. They had ten children in the following years, eight of whom died in infancy. For many years Zacharias Cicotte lived in the fort and engaged in trade. On April 1, 1750, he obtained a grant of land 3 arpents by 40 west of the fort now known as Private Claim 726, extending westward from Wabash Street to the alley between Fourteenth and Fifteenth streets. In 1762 he settled on this farm and lived here until his death. He was buried Aug. 11, 1775; Angelica Godfroy was buried, Dec. 28, 1791. Denissen, *op. cit.*

<sup>16</sup> The founder of the American line of Bondy was Thomas Douaire de Bondy, born in France in 1636, who married at Quebec, July 26, 1656, Margaret de Chavigny, daughter of Francis de Chavigny and Eleonora de Grandmaison. Thomas Bondy was drowned near Isle of Orleans in 1667. His eldest son, Jacques Douaire de Bondy, born at Quebec, Feb. 21, 1660, in 1697 married Magdelene Gatineau *dit* Duplessis. Their son Joseph was the witness who signed the present document. He was born at Montreal, Feb. 27, 1700. He came to Detroit prior to 1733 and married here Mary Ann Cecilia Campau, daughter of Jacques Campau and Cecilia Catin. In 1748 Bondy returned to Verchères, Quebec, where he was buried April 6, 1760. The couple had seven children born at Detroit prior to 1748, and at least one born after the removal to Verchères. Denissen, *op. cit.*

<sup>17</sup> The Navarres of Detroit were descended from Antoine of Bourbon, Duke of Vendome and King of Navarre. Robert Navarre, founder of the Detroit line, was born at Villeroy in Brittany, in 1709. In 1729 he came to Detroit and soon thereafter

said Mr. Barthe promises to hold to the credit of said Louis Campau and his children whenever, in future, the estate and inheritance claims of the said Mr. and Mrs. Louis Campau shall be divided among the heirs, and have signed the original, after reading. Louis Campau, Barthe, Navarre, notary.

A copy

Navarre

First copy of the record.

*Endorsed:* Conveyance made by Jacques Campau, senior, of a lot at Detroit to Louis Campau. The same by the latter to Mr. Barthe, June 3, 1750.

First copy of the record.

SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Expedié Pardevant Navarre notaire royal au Detroit y  
une fois resident sous signe faisant fonctions de subde-  
N legué de M<sup>r</sup> lintendant de la nouvelle france au  
d<sup>t</sup> lieu fut presente D<sup>e</sup> Agathe Casse, Veuve de  
S<sup>r</sup> Nicolas Campau viv<sup>t</sup> demeur<sup>t</sup> au Detroit, Tutrice  
Naturelle des Enfants mineurs issus d'ell et du d. feu S<sup>r</sup>  
Campau, laquelle au d<sup>t</sup> nom En Consequence de lavis des  
Parents des dits mineurs par acte du six du mois de may de

was appointed sub-intendant and royal notary of Fort Ponchartrain. He was a man of education and good sense, and so well did he discharge his official duties, that after the English conquest the conquerors found it desirable to continue him in the office of notary. In the French period, "No matter of local importance was taken up and discussed without the approval of Navarre. He saw that the taxes were levied and collected. He collected the tithes and church dues. He listened to the complaints of citizens against the increase of taxes or the unjust treatment of citizens by the officers. He was the judge between quarreling citizens, and it was by his judgment that delinquents were forced to pay their just debts or become bankrupt." C. M. Burton, *City of Detroit, Michigan, 1701-1922* (Chicago, 1922), I, 166. Navarre married, on Feb. 10, 1734, Mary Lootman *dit* Barrois, who was born in 1719, daughter of Francis Lootman *dit* Barrois and Mary Ann Sauvage. In 1747 he received from the government a grant of land west of the fort since known as Private Claim 22 or the Woodbridge farm, whose approximate boundaries are Tenth and Eleventh streets. On the advent of the British in 1760 Navarre's position as sub-intendant disappeared but he retained his appointment as notary. About the year 1762, he located on his farm, where he lived until death. He was buried, Nov. 24, 1791; Mary Lootman *dit* Barrois was buried, Dec. 20, 1799. The Navarre line has been distinguished through several centuries for the ability of its members. Among the descendants of Robert Navarre may be mentioned the Anthon brothers of New York (scholar, jurist, and preacher) and more recently, Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish. Denissen, *op. cit.*



la presente année de nous ratifié et approuvé le meme jour, portant pouvoir a la ditte Dame Comparante de vendre a l'amiable ou outrement adjuge au plus offrant la terre cy apres declarée et choses independantes lequell avis de parents est demeuré annexé a la Minutte des pretes [presentes] en la presence de M<sup>sr</sup> Jean B<sup>te</sup> Campau oncle Paternal des dits mineurs et des S<sup>r</sup> Jean B<sup>te</sup> Campau, Jadis Claude Campau; oncle des dits enfants mineurs, nommés au sus dit avis, nommés au sus dit avis [sic] des Parents pour assister a la Passation du pret Contrat, a Vendu et adjugé a S<sup>r</sup> Charles André Barte son neveu armurier demeur<sup>t</sup> au Detroit au present acquereur pour luy Ses hoirs et ayant Cause apres trois Criées et publications faites pend<sup>t</sup> trois Jours de festes et dimanches a la sortir de la Messe Paroissiale par Bazile Marois huissier Royal au d<sup>t</sup> lieu a la porte de l'Eglise depuis le six du present mois jusque et Compris le Dimanche vingt sept du meme mois—Deux arpents de terre de large sur quarante de profondeur avec une petit Maison sur iceux, consistant au terres labourable et bois debout Et les clostures endependantes Size a la Cote du Nord de la Riviere du Detroit, tenant les dits deux arpents de terre de large par ledevant a la d<sup>te</sup> Riviere et dans la profondeur aux terres nonconcedée, tenant dun cote a l'Est Nord Est a Jean le Duc et de l'autre coté a l'ouest Sud ouest, aux Deux arpents de terre que la ditte Veuve Comparante a cy devant vendus au d. S<sup>r</sup> Barthe par Contract du Cinq Decembre mil Sept cent cinquante Sept passé devant le N<sup>re</sup> soussigné dont il a la minutte, les dits deux arpents de terre etant en la Censive du Roy dont se meurent chargés au profit de sa Majesté de quatre livres deux sols et d'un demy Minot de blé par Chaque année que la ditte D<sup>e</sup> vendeur promet payer du passé au onze novembre mil sept Cent Cinquante huit affirmant la d<sup>te</sup> Dame n'avoir Engagé aucune Chose de la ditte terre, et promettant garentir le d. S<sup>r</sup> acquereur de toutes dettes evictions hypoteques et empechements quelconques provenant de ses faits et actions, et remettre au d. S<sup>r</sup> acquereur le contract de concessions de la ditte terre dont Son deffunt mari étoit pourvu avant leur mariage ce que dit savoir le d. S<sup>r</sup> Barthe et etre Content de la d<sup>te</sup> terre



en l'Etat quelle luy est apparu pour par luy enjouir a perpetuité et en toute propriété a Commencer la Jouissance au jour et fête de st. michel prochain. Cettes vente faites aux Conditions sus dittes et des cens et rentes, droits Seigneuriaux ou Royaux et servitudes Champetres a l'usage du pais et de la Coutume de pais aux quels s'est soumis le dit Sr acquereur, en outre moyennant la somme De trois mille livres que la ditte Dame Veuve a reconnu et Confessé avoir euë et recuë du d. Sr Barthe en belles et bonnes pelletries valables au prix et Cour actuel du Detroit dont elle le tiens quitte et tout autre, au moyen de quoy et de tout ce que dessus la ditte Dame en vertu de l'avis de Parent et par les pouvoirs qui luy en ont été donnés a transporté au dit Sr acquereur ses hoirs et ayant Cause tous droits de propriete [illisible] quelle et les siens peuvent avoir la ditte terre dependances vouloir qu'ils en soient saisis, vestus, mis et recus au bonne et suffisante possession et saizine par qui et ainsy quil appartiendra en vertu des presentes, constituant a cette fin son procureur irrevocable le porteur du present contract luy en donnant pouvoir. car ainsy &° et pour l'execution des pretes et dependances a élu son domicile irrevocable en sa maison auquel lieu &° promettant &° obligeant &° renoncant &° fait et passé au Detroit etude du dit no<sup>tre</sup> apres midy le vingt huit may lan mil sept cent Cinquante neuf presence de S<sup>rs</sup> Eustache Gamelin et Jean petit mil homme—temoins instrumentaire Demeurants au Detroit temoins lesquels ont avec les S<sup>rs</sup> Jean B<sup>te</sup> Campau et Claude Campau oncles des mineurs et Le Sr Barthe Signé a la minutte et pour la ditte D<sup>e</sup> Veuve elle a declaré ne savoir signer de ce interpeller Lecture faite.

Claude Campau,  
Ch Barthe  
Eustache Gamelin  
Milhomme.

J. Bte Campau  
Navarre N<sup>re</sup>

*Endorsed: 28° May, 1759*

adjudication de deux arpents de terre au Detroit au Sr Barthe et vente par le Veuve Nicolas Campau.

cy Joint une deliberation faite dans une assemblée de parents et plusieurs petits billets concernant la succession de Nicolas Campau,

N° 84,

*Translation*<sup>18</sup>

First BEFORE the undersigned royal notary, Naduplicate. varre of Detroit, and there resident, acting as N. subdelegate of the Intendant of New France at the said place, appeared Mrs. Agathe Casse, widow of Nicolas Campau,<sup>19</sup> in his lifetime a resident of Detroit, the natural guardian of the minor children of herself and the late Mr. Campau, who—as above named—following the decree in council of the relatives of the said minor children, by act of the sixth day of May of the present year, as ratified and approved by us on that day, giving authority to the said lady now present to sell without legal action or as otherwise decided to the highest bidder, the land hereinafter described and other things separately, which decree of council of relatives is affixed to the original of these presents, in the presence of Jean Baptiste Campau,<sup>20</sup> paternal uncle of said minor children, and of Jean Baptiste Campau formerly

<sup>18</sup> This document serves to illustrate the care with which matters affecting land titles and other important transactions were conducted in French Detroit. "An idea once prevailed," observes Silas Farmer, "that affairs in remote French posts were conducted without much regard to legal correctness. The more closely the question is examined, the more careful the local authorities appear to have been." *History of Detroit and Michigan . . .* (Detroit, 1884), 20.

<sup>19</sup> Nicolas Campau *dit* Niagara, son of Jacques Campau and Cecilia Catin, was born at the Niagara portage in July, 1710, from which circumstance his nickname was acquired. He married at Detroit, Sept. 4, 1737, Agathe Casse *dit* St. Aubin, daughter of Jean Casse *dit* St. Aubin and Mary Louisa Gaultier. He succeeded his father on the farm, Private Claim 18, and was buried at Detroit, Dec. 16, 1756. Agathe Casse was buried, May 12, 1808. They were the parents of twelve children, five of whom died before their father. Denissen, *op. cit.*

<sup>20</sup> Jean Baptiste Campau, son of Jacques Campau and Cecilia Catin and brother of Nicolas Campau *dit* Niagara, was born at Montreal, Aug. 4, 1711, and married at Detroit, Jan. 27, 1737, Catherine Perthuis, daughter of Pierre Perthuis and Catherine Mallet. In 1749 he bought the land east of the fort, since known as Private Claim 15, or the Leib farm, whose eastern and western boundaries were identical with those of present-day Mount Elliott Cemetery, but sold it in 1750. In 1762 he was a royal notary and resided on St. Joseph Street. He was buried at Detroit, June 12, 1783. Catherine Perthuis was buried, Feb. 20, 1763. They were the parents of fifteen children. Denissen, *op. cit.*

called Claude Campau,<sup>21</sup> uncle of said minor children, named in the above mentioned decree of council of relatives to assist at the drawing of these presents—has sold and adjudged to Charles André Barthe, her nephew, gunsmith, living now at Detroit, purchasing for himself and his heirs and assigns after three announcements and publications made by the public crier of the said place, Bazile Marois,<sup>22</sup> at the church door on three holy days and Sundays after parish mass, beginning on the sixth day of the present month, up to and including Sunday, the twenty-seventh of this same month, a tract of land of two arpents front by forty in depth with a small house upon the same, consisting of arable land, forest and fencing, situated on the north side of the River Detroit, the said two arpents fronting on the said river, having unceded land in the rear, adjoining land of Jean Le Duc<sup>23</sup> on the east-north-east, and on the other side, the west-south-west, the two arpents of land which the said widow now present formerly sold to the said Mr. Barthe by deed dated the fifth of December, one thousand seven hun-

<sup>21</sup> Claude Campau, son of Jacques Campau and Cecilia Catin, was born at Montreal, Aug. 25, 1715, and married at Detroit, Jan. 22, 1742, Catherine Casse *dit* St. Aubin, daughter of Jean Casse *dit* St. Aubin and Mary Louisa Gaultier. Claude Campau was buried at Detroit, May 31, 1787. Catherine Casse *dit* St. Aubin was buried March 7, 1805. No record of children born to them has been found. Denissen, *op. cit.*

<sup>22</sup> Charles Marois married Catherine Livrade and lived in the parish of St. Paul, Paris. Their son William, born in 1660, migrated to Canada and was appointed recorder in the seignior of Beaupré. On April 14, 1687, he married Catherine Labege, who was born at Chateau Richer, Sept. 15, 1667. Their son, Bazile, born at Chateau Richer in 1698, married at Quebec, Feb. 28, 1718, Mary Teresa L'Hereux. The town crier of the present document was their eldest child, born at Quebec, April 15, 1719. He married (third) at Detroit, Oct. 4, 1756, Frances Pimparé, daughter of Charles Pimparé and Louisa Bouhours. Denissen, *op. cit.*

<sup>23</sup> The American progenitor of the line of Le Duc was Jean Le Duc, who was born in the parish of St. Martin, diocese of Ige, France, in 1624. He migrated to Canada and on Nov. 11, 1652, married at Montreal Mary Soulinier, daughter of Elias Soulinier and Mary Foubert. They lived at Montreal, where Jean was buried, April 19, 1702, and Mary on Sept. 3, 1701. They had two sons, Jean and Joseph. Both spent their lives in Lower Canada, but descendants of both came to Detroit and their lines are represented here.

The eldest child of Jean was the Jean Baptiste of the present document. He was born at Montreal, Dec. 12, 1684. On June 9, 1721, he married there Catherine Descary, daughter of Michael Descary and Mary Cuillerier. He had been in Detroit as early as 1710, and about the year 1732 he settled here with his family. Five children had been born at Montreal and four more were born after the removal to Detroit. Jean Le Duc was buried at Sandwich, April 24, 1768. Catherine Descary was buried at Detroit, April 15, 1761. Denissen, *op. cit.*



dred and fifty-seven, executed before the notary undersigned, of which he has the original, the said two arpents of land being subject to royal quit-rents, charged with the same for His Majesty's revenue, of four livres two sols and one half minot of corn annually, which the said lady vendor promises to pay from the past up to the eleventh of November, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-eight, the said lady certifying that she has never made any contract for the said land and promising to guarantee the said purchaser against all debts, evictions, mortgages and hindrances whatsoever arising from her own deeds and actions and to place in the hands of the said purchaser the contract of cession of the said land which her late husband had in his possession before their marriage as the said Mr. Barthe knows and is satisfied with the said tract of land as he has seen it, for his enjoyment forever and full rights of ownership, to commence from the day of the feast of St. Michael next.

This sale is made on the conditions above set forth of *cens et rentes*, seigniorial or royal rights and ground service according to the usage and custom of the country, to which the said purchaser agrees, and furthermore for the sum of three thousand livres which the said widow acknowledges and confesses to have received from the said Mr. Barthe in good, choice peltries, valued at the present Detroit price and currency, holding him acquitted of this payment and of all else, in consequence of which and of all herein before set forth and of the decree in council of relatives, and by virtue of the authority given to her for that effect, has conveyed to the said purchaser, his heirs and assigns, all rights of possession belonging to her and her heirs, that he may be seized and vested therewith, placed and received in good and sufficient possession and seizin, by which and because of which it may belong to him by virtue of these presents, constituting for that purpose the bearer hereof as her attorney in fact by giving to him power thereof.

For thus &c., and for the execution of these presents and conditions she has chosen, without repeal, her home in her own house to which place &c., promising &c., obliging &c., renouncing &c., duly executed at Detroit in the office of



the said notary on the afternoon of the twenty-eighth day of May in the year one thousand seven hundred and fifty-nine in the presence of Eustache Gamelin and Jean Baptiste Campau and Claude Campau, uncles of the minor children, and Mr. Barthe, the said widow having declared that she cannot sign this instrument, the same having been read.

Claude Campau

J. Bte. Campau

Ch Barthe

Navarre, Notary

Eustache Gamelin

Milhomme

*Endorsed:* May 28, 1759. Adjudication of two arpents of land at Detroit to Mr. Barthe, the sale by the widow of Nicolas Campau.

Attached is the decree in council of the relatives and several notes concerning the estate of Nicolas Campau.<sup>24</sup>

No. 84.

#### JOHN ASKIN DISCHARGED FROM BANKRUPTCY

To all People to whom these presents shall come We whose Names are hereunto Subscribed & Seals affixed Creditors of John Askin & Robert Rogers<sup>25</sup> Late of the City of Albany in the Province of New York Copartners send Greeting—Whereas the said John Askin & Robert Rogers on the Day of the Date hereof do owe & are Indebted unto us the said Several Creditors whose names are hereunto

<sup>24</sup> The decree in council and the notes here alluded to are no longer preserved with the document.

<sup>25</sup> Robert Rogers was famous at this time by reason of his exploits as a leader of rangers in the French and Indian War. It was Rogers to whom was assigned the hazardous service of taking over Detroit and the other western posts from the French upon the surrender of Canada in 1760. He later bore a notable part in the defense of Detroit against Pontiac in 1763, and still later (1766-67) served as governor of Mackinac and dependencies. Rogers' failures as administrator and business man were no less marked than was his success as a partisan leader. The fiasco with Askin, of which this document preserves record, was merely one incident in a long list of financial disasters. The best available biography of Rogers is by Allan Nevins, *Ponteach or the Savages of America. A Tragedy by Robert Rogers With an Introduction and a Biography of the Author* (Chicago, 1914). On his administration as governor of Mackinac see, also, M. M. Quaife, *Wisconsin: Its History and Its People, 1634-1924* (Chicago, 1924), I, 225-42.

## BURTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

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Subscribed & Seals affixed in Several Sums of money which they are at present unable to pay and Satisfy, And Whereas the said Robert Rogers having departed the said Province and gone beyond Sea The said John Askin in order to obtain a final Discharge for himself Hath Conveyed Assigned & Delivered up unto Abraham Dow of the City of Albany aforesaid and Hamilton Young of the City of New York Merchants in Trust for all the Creditors of the said Askin & Rogers All the Estate Real & personal as well belonging to the said Copartnership as to him the said John Askin to be applied towards Payment of all the Debts due by the said Copartnership as far as the same will extend Now therefore Know Ye That we the said Creditors do for ourselves severally and Respectively and for our several and Respective Executors and Administrators Remise Release and for ever Quit Claim unto the said John Askin his Heirs Executors & Administrators all & all manner of Action & Actions Cause & Causes of Action & Actions Suits Bills Bonds Writings Obligations Debts Dues Duties Reckonings Accounts Sum & Sums of money Judgments Executions Extents Quarrels Controversies Trespasses Damages & Demands whatsoever both in Law & Equity which we the said Subscribers any or either of us now have or which we any or either of us our or any or either of our Executors Administrators partners or Assigns shall or may have Claim Challenge or Demand against the said John Askin his Heirs Executors or Administrators for or by reason or means of his the said John Askin having been a Copartner with the said Robert Rogers or for or by reason or means of any other Act Matter Cause or Thing from the Beginning of the World to the Day of the Date hereof Provided always that nothing herein Contained shall extend or be Construed to extend to Debar us the said Subscribers any or either of us or any or either of our Executors Administrators Partners or Assigns from making use of the name of the said John Askin in any Suit or Suits hereafter to be Comenced or prosecuted against the said Robert Rogers In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands & Seals

JOHN ASKIN PAPERS

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this Twenty fourth Day of December in the Year of our Lord one Thousand Seven hundred & Seventy one.

Sealed & Delivered	Greg Cunningham & Co. & for	(L. S.)
In the presence of	Greg & Cunningham	
Jacob Allbright	Theophylait Bache for himself and as an assignee to the Estate	
William Wilson	of Hymen Levy	(L. S.)
	John Alsop	
	Assignee to H. Levy	(L. S.)
	Oliver Templeton for himself and Att <sup>y</sup> for Hugh Cairns and Edward Agnew Sole Heir and Administ <sup>r</sup> to the Estate of Henry Agnew Decs <sup>d</sup>	} (L. S.)
	Cha <sup>s</sup> M <sup>o</sup> Evers for the Estate of J <sup>as</sup> M <sup>o</sup> Evers	} (L. S.)
	Hamilton Young Trustee to the Estate of Abram Lyle	(L. S.)
	Hamilton Young Trustee to John Dunlop he being Assignee to Peebles & Wells	(L. S.)
	Gerard W <sup>m</sup> Beekman Trustee to People & Wells	(L. S.)
	Gerard W <sup>m</sup> Beekman Trustee to Kennede & Lyle	(L. S.)
	Alex <sup>r</sup> Stewart	(L. S.)
	Benson & Turner	(L. S.)

*Endorsed:* Discharge from the Creditors of John Askin  
[In another hand:] Albany 1771



## BURTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

### RECEIPT FOR FEUDAL DUES

Recu au Detroit le 28 de Fevrier 1773. de Badishon Labadie trois Minots de Blé et Vingt quatre Livres douze Sols en Argent en consideration de la permission lui accordée de cultiver une Terre de quatre Arpens de front sur quarante de profondeur embas de Village de Poutewatamis et une autre de quatre Arpens de front sur Quatre vingt de Profondeur au Village ancien des Outawas le tout pour une Année echue au Onze de Nov<sup>r</sup> dernier. P Ord<sup>r</sup> de Major Henry Basset Command<sup>t</sup>

James Sterling

*Endorsed:* Receipt J Sterling for Quit Rent 1773.

### *Translation*

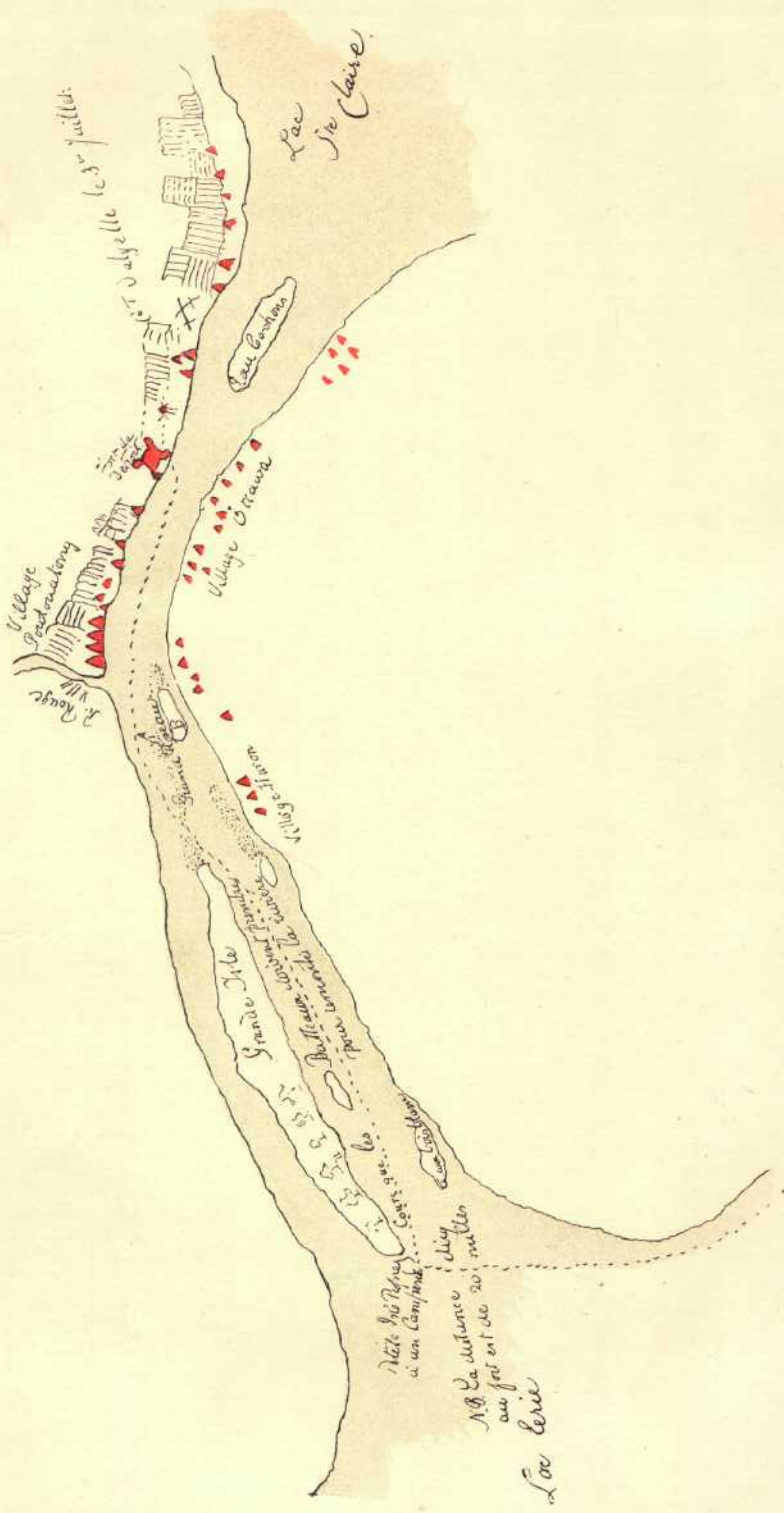
Received at Detroit, Feb. 28, 1773, of Badishon Labadie,<sup>26</sup> three minots of wheat and twenty-four livres twelve sols in cash, in consideration of the permission granted to him to cultivate a tract of land four arpents in front by forty in depth below the village of the Potawatomi,<sup>27</sup> and another

<sup>26</sup> The founder of the Detroit Labadie family was Pierre Descomps *dit* Labadie (La Badie), born in La Rochelle, France, in 1702, who married at Montreal, Nov. 17, 1727, Angelica Lacelle, a native of that place. The family removed to Detroit about the year 1740, where Pierre was buried, Sept. 10, 1782.

The second son of this couple, Anthony Louis Descomps *dit* Labadie, was born at Montreal in 1730 and married at Detroit, Feb. 26, 1759, Angelica Campau, daughter of Nicolas Campau *dit* Niagara and Agathe Casse *dit* St. Aubin. She died in December, 1767, leaving several children. Thereafter for many years, the widower consorted with Marie, a Chippewa woman. In Oct., 1784, he married Charlotte Barthe, widow of Louis Réaume and daughter of Pierre and Mary Chapoton Barthe. He was buried at Sandwich, Dec. 17, 1807; Charlotte Barthe was buried at Detroit, Feb. 11, 1849.

By his several unions Anthony Labadie became the father of twenty-three children, the mother of eight of them being Marie, the Chippewa woman. These children are all designated as Labadie *dit* Badichon, evidently because the appellation Badichon had in some way become attached to the father, Anthony Labadie; possibly it was given him by the kinsmen of Marie. Labadie was a man of considerable wealth, owning two mills, besides lands and slaves and other property. By his will he bequeathed two of his slaves, his horse-mill, and other property to his widow. The widespread ramifications of the Labadie family are in part suggested in this note, compiled from data given by Denissen, *op. cit.*; notes on the Labadie family printed in Essex Hist. Soc., *Papers and Addresses*, I, 38-55 and C. M. Burton, "The Labadie Family in Detroit," ms. in Burton Hist. Coll.

<sup>27</sup> The Potawatomi village and cemetery were west of the enclosed town of Detroit, in the vicinity of Twenty-first and Twenty-fourth streets—land since known as Private Claim 20, or the Brevoort and Porter farms. In 1771, the tribe deeded the



FORT DETROIT AND ENVIRONS IN 1768  
 Reproduced from a contemporary chart in the Dominion Archives in Ottawa

tract of four arpents in front by eighty in depth at the old village of the Ottawa, the whole being for the year which expired on the eleventh of November last. By order of the Commandant, Major Henry Bassett.<sup>28</sup> James Sterling<sup>29</sup>

*Endorsed:* Receipt for quit rents. J. Sterling. 1773.

GEORGE ANTHON DISCHARGES A MORTGAGE

Resu par Monsieur George Entony La Somme De trois Cents Soisante quinze Livres Contenu Dans Laublignation

site to Robert Navarre, the younger, forever, "that he may cultivate the same, light a fire thereon, and take care of our dead." The natives' faith in Navarre's ability to preserve the burial place of their dead from desecration proved vain. Long since the cemetery was displaced by the demands of the growing city. It is stated that in 1867, in the course of grading Woodbridge Street, some twenty-five or thirty skeletons were uncovered. See Farmer, *History of Detroit*, 22, 50.

<sup>28</sup> Major Henry Bassett of the Tenth Regiment commanded the post of Detroit for two years, 1772-74. He seems to have been a man of energy and ability, who exerted himself in various ways to promote the interests of the Crown at Detroit. In the spring of 1774, the garrisons at Detroit and Mackinac were relieved by detachments of the Eighth Regiment, and ordered down to Canada preparatory to the return of the Tenth Regiment to England. Thus terminated Major Bassett's connection with Detroit. See C. M. Burton, *City of Detroit, 1701-1922*, I, 124-26, and *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, X, *passim*.

<sup>29</sup> James Sterling was a native of Ireland who came to America during the Seven Years' War and served as commissary of provisions under General Haldimand. On the conquest of Canada in 1760, a group of associates, several of whom had been army officers, embarked upon the Northwest trade; the partners were Capt. Walter Rutherford of New York, of the Sixty-second Regiment; Lieut. John Duncan of Schenectady, of the Forty-fourth Regiment; Lieut. George Coventry of Schenectady, of the Fifty-fifth Regiment; and James Syme of Schenectady. They obtained from General Amherst a provisional grant of 10,000 acres of land at the upper end of the Niagara portage, and early in 1761 built a storehouse there and prepared to engage in the carrying trade. Sterling supervised the initial operations at Niagara, and in July, 1761, came on to Detroit, where he opened a store and served as general western agent of the partners, sending out ventures to Miamis (modern Fort Wayne), Mackinac, Sault Ste. Marie, and other tributary points. He won the confidence of the French settlers, whose language he spoke, and during the Pontiac siege of 1763, they chose him to act as commander of the local militia. In particular, he stirred the interest of beautiful Angélique Cuillerier, niece of the late French commandant, Bellestre. On Feb. 19, 1765, they were married, and in a letter written a week later, Sterling describes his bride as "a prudent woman, a fine scholar; has been used to trade from her infancy & is generally allowed to be the best interpreter of the different Ind<sup>n</sup> languages at this place." There is considerable reason for believing that it was she, moved by the desire to save Sterling, who disclosed to the British the plot of Pontiac in 1763. During the Revolution, Sterling was suspected by the authorities of sympathizing with the colonists, and during Governor Hamilton's régime at Detroit, he was arrested and sent to Lower Canada. Apparently he never returned to Detroit. Information adapted from copy of Sterling letter book (ms.) in Burton Hist. Coll.; Buffalo Hist. Soc., *Publications*, VI, 33 ff.; and mss. in Burton Hist. Coll., *passim*.



Cy Contre ausit La Somme de dix sept Livres dix Sols pour Les Interest de huitz moy aconté du premier octobre 1772 Jusquau premier de Juin 1773. Ces pour quoy ge [je] transporte La d<sup>te</sup> ipotèque amond<sup>t</sup> Sieur Antony avec mes Droit que je luy abandonne donné ce 1<sup>e</sup> Juin 1773

Jacques Campau

*Appended:* Detroit 10<sup>me</sup> June Recu de Mon<sup>r</sup> Rivarre Quatre Cent treize Livres, c'est pour Argent preter a Madame Losonett. Interest ajoute depuis ce temps ainsy Je tins quitte la d<sup>te</sup> Dame aussi M<sup>r</sup> Rivarre.

Geo. Anthon

*Endorsed:* Obligation of Mad<sup>me</sup> Losonet for 392<sup>ll</sup> 10.

### *Translation*

Received from George Anthon<sup>30</sup> the sum of three hundred and seventy-five livres, the amount of the mortgage herewith, also seventeen livres ten sols interest for eight months from October 1, 1772, to June 1, 1773. I therefore convey the said mortgage to the said Anthon and make over to him all my claim thereto, this 1st day of June, 1773.

Jacques Campau.<sup>31</sup>

<sup>30</sup> George Christian Anthon was a native of Germany who studied medicine and found his way to America as a young man. He entered the British army as a surgeon's mate and in 1760 came to Detroit with Major Rogers' expedition which received the surrender of the French garrison. Anthon remained at Detroit until 1786, when he removed with his family to New York. In August, 1770, he married Mary Ann Navarre, the widow of Jacques St. Martin, interpreter to the Huron, and in 1778 he married (second) Genevieve Jadot, a niece of his first wife. Several children were born of this marriage, three at least of whom became widely known: John Anthon, as a lawyer and jurist; Henry Anthon as a preacher; and Charles Anthon as a classical scholar and teacher. Information condensed from M. M. Quaife, "The Mansion of St. Martin" in *Burton Hist. Coll. Leaflet*, III, 36-41.

<sup>31</sup> The signer of this document was probably Jacques, the son of Jean Louis Campau for whom see *ante*, 33. Jacques Campau was born March 30 1735, and on Aug. 17, 1761, married Catherine Menard, daughter of Jacques Menard and Susanne Projean dit Prudhomme. He married (second) Mary Frances Navarre, widow of Lieutenant George McDougall, the owner of Hog Island (modern Belle Isle). Jacques Campau was the father of a large family of children. He acquired ownership of a farm extending westward from Chene Street toward St. Aubin Avenue, which had originally been granted by the government to Pierre Estève, July 3, 1734, and which is now designated as Private Claims 91 and 14. It was in his house that Major Rogers and his fellow soldiers sought refuge during the disastrous Battle of Bloody Run in

*Appended:* Detroit, June 10. Received of Mr. Rivard<sup>32</sup> four hundred and thirteen livres, for money loaned to Madam Losonet, with interest added since that date, hereby acquitting the said lady of that obligation, also Mr. Rivard.

George Anthon

*Endorsed:* Obligation of Madam Losonet for 392 livres 10 sols.

PERMISSION TO BUILD A HOUSE

I do hereby certify having given permission to M<sup>r</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Askin Dep<sup>y</sup> Commissary & Barrack Master of the Fort of Missilimakinac to enclose from three to five Acres of Ground near a Spot call'd the three Miles pond from its said suppos'd Distance from the Fort & to build thereon a House with such other Conveniences as He from Time to Time may judge necessary of which I advis'd His Excellency the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Th<sup>s</sup> Gage<sup>33</sup> Esq., Commander in Chief in the Course of Summer 1773

Given under My Hand at Missilimakinac this 7<sup>th</sup> Day  
July 1774

1763. Francis Parkman, who has vividly described the scene, mistakenly characterizes Campau as "old" and "gray"; in fact, he was twenty-eight at the time and had been married but two years. Campau was an officer of the militia of the Northeast Coast of Detroit, and in 1770 he was *Marguiller comptable* (treasurer) of Ste. Anne's Church. He was buried Feb. 16, 1789. See C. M. Burton, *City of Detroit, 1701-1922*, II, 1363-66, and references in Burton Hist. Coll., *passim*.

32. Jean Baptiste Rivard was born at Grondines, Canada, Nov. 22, 1729, and married at Detroit, Feb. 15, 1762, Mary Catherine Yax, a native of Detroit, whose parents, Michael Yax and Catherine Herbinne, were Detroit's first German settlers. The founders of the Rivard family in America were two brothers, Nicolas Rivard *dit* Lavigne and Robert Rivard *dit* Loranger, who came from France to Canada about the middle of the seventeenth century and settled and died at Batiscan. Both became progenitors of families which were represented at Detroit in the eighteenth century and later. Jean Baptiste Rivard was a grandson of the elder of these brothers. In 1762 he obtained a concession of land at Grosse Pointe, now known as Private Claims 299 and 300, and this became his permanent home. He was buried at Detroit, June 23, 1805; his wife was buried Sept. 27, 1792. To them were born numerous children, who figure in the life of Detroit in succeeding generations. Denissen, *op. cit.*

33. Thomas Gage, born in 1721, entered the army as a lieutenant in 1741, and a dozen years later came to America with General Braddock's force as a lieutenant colonel. He led the advance of Braddock's army, and was wounded in the notable defeat of July 8, 1755. On the capture of Montreal by the British in 1760, Gage was appointed governor and his administration of the conquered city was marked by its mildness. He was made major general in 1761, lieutenant general in 1770, and general in 1782. From 1763 to 1772 he was commander-in-chief of the British forces in America, with headquarters at New York. In the last-named year he returned

BURTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

J VATTAS<sup>34</sup> Capt<sup>n</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> Tenth  
Commdt of said Fort & Garrison &° &°

*Endorsed:* July 1774 [*In Vattas' handwriting:*] M<sup>r</sup> John Askin [*In Askin's handwriting:*] Cap<sup>t</sup> Vattas's permission for a Settm<sup>t</sup> near Michilimackinac.

DIARY OF JOHN ASKIN AT MACKINAC, 1774<sup>35</sup>

1774

April the 16<sup>th</sup> the lake first broke up a little.

19<sup>th</sup> I sett the first potatoes same day the first Wild Ducks was brought to the Fort

20<sup>th</sup> I began to harrow my Ground at the farm

22<sup>st</sup> Sowed some pease at the farm the first Geesse killed by my Brother

23<sup>d</sup> the large Boat taken out of the Fort by my Man. M<sup>r</sup> Boyez<sup>36</sup> Sewed Pease

26<sup>h</sup> The lake now passable in Boats

27<sup>th</sup> Some Ice returned, Sowed Buck Wheat at the farm & Sett the first potatoes there

Apr<sup>l</sup> the 28<sup>th</sup> M<sup>rs</sup> Ainsse<sup>37</sup> went in a Boat for the Grand Traverse or to meet the Ottaways; Sowed Parsnips & Sett Potatoes at the farm also sowed Oates

to England, coming back in 1774 as captain general and governor of Massachusetts. He was unable to stay the course of revolution, and, although again appointed commander-in-chief of the forces in America in August, 1775, he was superseded by General Howe a year later and in October, 1776, returned to England, where he died in 1787. In December, 1758, Gage married, in America, Margaret Kembal, daughter of Peter Kembal, president of the provincial council of New Jersey. To them five daughters and six sons were born. One son, born in 1777, was long an admiral in the British navy. See *Dictionary of National Biography*.

<sup>34</sup> John Vattas was made captain in the Tenth Regiment, May 5, 1760. He commanded the post of Mackinac in the interval between the commands of Captain George Turnbull and Major De Peyster, or about the years 1772 to 1774. On Jan. 13, 1776, he received the commission of major in the regiment. See British army lists.

<sup>35</sup> From the original manuscript in the Dominion Archives in Ottawa.

<sup>36</sup> Probably Charles Boyer (Boyez), for whom see *post*, 93.

<sup>37</sup> The Ainsse family had been established at Mackinac for several decades before 1774. August 30, 1741, Joseph Ainsse married there Constance Chevalier. After



JOHN ASKIN PAPERS

29<sup>th</sup> The first Indians Arived from the Other Side in a Canoe planted Onions for seed, also Beans Squash seed & Cucumbers

30<sup>th</sup> Sowed onion & Spinage Seed

May 1<sup>st</sup> the land Gate Shutt

2<sup>d</sup> began to plow a very hard frost this Night, & a strong West Wind

3<sup>d</sup> Cold Weather frost & Snow more than Common at this Season

Agreed with Elizabeth Staniford yesterday for my Washing & all my familys—for 8/ N.Y. C per week

1774 May the 4<sup>th</sup>

Continued plowing & setting Potatoes the Weather more Moderate

5<sup>th</sup> More potatoes Sett

6<sup>th</sup> Sowed Pease & sett potatoes several Showers of Snow to day. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Lyons<sup>38</sup> & Oakes<sup>39</sup> arrived from a Hunting Party an Indian Canoe came from the opposite side

7<sup>th</sup> Sowed Oates & sett Potatoes fair Weather Westerly Wind

8<sup>th</sup> Hired Chabotte from this day to the arrival of the C<sup>os</sup> Canoes from the G Portage<sup>40</sup> for 100<sup>ls</sup> in pel[try]: or 200<sup>ls</sup> in Montreal also 1 p<sup>r</sup> Trowsers a Shirt & pair of Legons. he Obliges himself dureing s<sup>d</sup> time to work faithfull whither on a Voyage or Otherwise Employed

his death she married (1751) François Louis Cardinal, royal notary in the closing years of the French period. See *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, XVIII, 140 and 470. A son of the former marriage was Joseph Louis Ainse, born May 1, 1744, whose career is sketched *post*, 69. We are unable to identify the Mrs. Ainse here mentioned, but in view of her trading activities there is some reason for supposing her to be the Sarah Ainse whose career is noted *post*, 194.

38 Benjamin Lyon was for a time a partner of Askin at Mackinac. Apparently this place was his permanent residence, for in 1787 he signed a petition to Captain Scott in the capacity of merchant and trader at Mackinac, and as late as July 28, 1800, his name is recorded as a witness in the Register of marriages at that place.

39 Forrest Oakes came to Mackinac as early as 1769, and figures prominently in Dr. Daniel Morison's journal of misdeeds at that post. See ms. in Burton Hist. Coll. In May, 1780, and in April, 1781, he signed memorials of protest to General Haldimand as one of a group of traders to Grand Portage and the Northwest. *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, IX, 550-52 and XIX, 620-21. In the latter document he is described as a "merchant of Montreal."

40 Grand Portage, at the western end of Lake Superior, for which see *post*, 74.

BURTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

May the 8<sup>th</sup> 1774

The first Herring caught to day.

9<sup>th</sup> plowed & Harrowed some Ground

10<sup>th</sup> Sowed the last Oats & Pease

11<sup>th</sup> Sett the last potatoes M<sup>r</sup> Cadotts<sup>41</sup> Brother in Law  
an Indian arrived to day

12<sup>th</sup> Mess<sup>rs</sup> Chaboulliez<sup>42</sup> Cainé[?] & M<sup>r</sup> Sans Chagrin<sup>43</sup>  
Arrived from the Grande Rivire today

15<sup>th</sup> a Canoe of M<sup>r</sup> S<sup>t</sup> Pierres<sup>44</sup> arrived from Milwaukee  
with Corn

18<sup>th</sup> Sowed Squashes or pumkin Seed at the farm  
Mich. May 22<sup>d</sup> 1774 hired Clutiez from the Time of his  
being free this Year which will be the 27<sup>th</sup> of Aug<sup>t</sup> Next  
Untill the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 1775 for Two hundred & fifty Livres  
in peltry & an Equipm<sup>t</sup> which I now have delivered him

M<sup>rs</sup> Ainsse Arrived with the Ottaways.

<sup>41</sup> Jean Baptiste Cadotte, grandson of a follower of St. Luson, who in 1671 at the Sault took possession of the Northwest for the king of France, passed his life in the western fur trade, with permanent headquarters at the Sault. He contracted a forest marriage with a Chippewa woman, whom in 1756 he formally married at Mackinac. According to Otto Fowle, *Sault Ste. Marie and its Great Waterway* (New York and London, 1925), 483, she was a relative of Matchekewis, the chief who plotted the massacre of 1763 at Mackinac. Cadotte's influence over the Chippewa of the Sault was all-powerful, and in 1763 he exerted it to restrain them from joining in the plot for the massacre of the garrison at Mackinac. A few years after this event, Cadotte entered into a partnership with Alexander Henry and others to exploit the Lake Superior copper deposits, but the enterprise did not prove economically feasible and was abandoned after a courageous trial. In 1796 Cadotte turned his property and business over to his two sons by his Chippewa wife, Jean Baptiste Jr. and Michel. These men were prominent in the Lake Superior fur trade (particularly of modern Wisconsin and Minnesota) for another generation. The elder Cadotte died in 1803. See Quaife, *Wisconsin: Its History and Its People*, I, 262-66.

<sup>42</sup> Probably Charles Chaboillez, for whom see *post*, 91.

<sup>43</sup> Alexis Sejournee dit Sanschagrin, was a sergeant of the troops at Mackinac in 1749. Apparently he became a permanent resident of the place, for his name appears at various times in the Mackinac birth and marriage registers. He married Mary Angelica Tareau; a daughter, named Mary Angelica, born at Mackinac on March 10, 1749, married (first), May 4, 1764, Jean Baptiste Cauchois and (second), on June 26, 1778, Pierre Cardinal of Detroit. Alexis Sejournee was living at Mackinac as late as 1764, when he witnessed the marriage of his daughter as noted above.

<sup>44</sup> A trader bearing this name was in Wisconsin and on the upper Mississippi as early as 1763. See *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, XVIII, 267-68. Captain Samuel Robertson, who visited Milwaukee in the autumn of 1779, recorded in his log book considerable information about his interview with St. Pierre. *Ibid.*, XI, 210-11. In 1839 an aged Indian identified the southwest corner of Fifth and Chestnut streets, Milwaukee, as the site of the former home of a family named "St. Peter or St. Pierre," *Parkman Club Publications*, (Milwaukee, 1896), I, 81. St. Pierre was the earliest trader, so far as present information goes, to locate on the site of Milwaukee.

23<sup>d</sup> Began to plant Indian Corn.

May 26<sup>th</sup> the first Vessell Arived from Detroit

28<sup>th</sup> Sowed Garden Pease, Beans, Clover & Rye Grass

30<sup>th</sup> planted Potatoes

July 19<sup>th</sup> 1774 began to Cutt Hay

July 21<sup>st</sup> The *Archange* Sailed from hence at half pas 2 oClock in the Afternoon

July 26<sup>th</sup> the *Angelica* with the remd<sup>r</sup> of my Liquors & C Arived

July 28<sup>th</sup> the *Angelica* Sailed this Night.

Aug<sup>t</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> Barth<sup>45</sup> Arrived from the Grande Portage

Aug<sup>t</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> the *Gloster* Arrived recv<sup>d</sup> by her from

M<sup>o</sup>Farlin

12½ Bar<sup>l</sup> rum

M<sup>r</sup> Ellis

5 Kegs Hogs lard

2 Books

2 Barrells of lime

2 D " Tar & Turpentine

Sunday Aug<sup>t</sup> the 7<sup>th</sup> the *Gloster* Sailed for Detroit

Monday Aug<sup>t</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> The *Archange* Arrived at Night

Monday Aug<sup>t</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> the *Archange* Saled for Detroit ½ past 1 oClock

Tuesday Aug<sup>t</sup> 23<sup>d</sup> Reaped Some Oates

Thursday Aug<sup>t</sup> the 25<sup>th</sup> the *Dunmore* Arrived.

Aug<sup>t</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> Went to Detroit

Oct<sup>r</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> Arrived from Detroit same day the *Archange* Arrived from Detroit

Sunday Nov<sup>er</sup> the 6<sup>th</sup> 1774

About 12 oClock the Watter began to rise here & continued doing so for About ¾ of an Hour in which time it rose 3½ foot perpendicular & afterwards fell Gradually to its former plane the Wind was S. W & blew hard. no Such thing as this Ever happened here in my time which is now ten years the same Evening & Night a fall of Snow About 4 Inches

45 Apparently Jean Baptiste Barthe, Askin's brother-in-law, for whom see *post*, 74.



BURTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

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8<sup>th</sup> Dug my Potatoes at the farm

14<sup>th</sup> Dug the last of my Potatoes

Nov<sup>r</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup> Robison<sup>46</sup> began the Paterns for the Petiauger

14<sup>th</sup> he went to the Woods to get the Timber to make her

30<sup>th</sup> Took up my Cabage out of my Garden

Jan<sup>y</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1775 The poor Blk Sow took Boar.

12<sup>th</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup> Cornwalls<sup>47</sup> Sow took the Boar. the first hen laid Yesterday Ganniez[?] began to make Kegs

13<sup>th</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup> Robison began the Petiauger

Febr<sup>r</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1775 The Ewes began to Lamb

March 4<sup>th</sup> a Cow Calfed at the farm

15<sup>th</sup> a Cow Calfed at the farm in the Woods the Weather so good & Grass almost Every place

March 26<sup>th</sup> The lake is now so Clear of Ice that has been driving back & forward for Above three Weeks past that a Boat or Vessell may go on it.

Apr<sup>l</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> The Weather has been Uncommonly Cold Since the 26<sup>th</sup> March Some of my Cows have lain Out for Near a fortnight at diff<sup>t</sup> times

7<sup>th</sup> The first Canoe Arrived from the Other shore.

Mich. Apr<sup>l</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 1775

M<sup>r</sup> Henry gone from this in a Canoe for S<sup>t</sup> Mary's

The Second time we have seen Pidgons this Season, the first was four days ago.

Some Geesse flew past to day & some Other some days Ago

8<sup>th</sup> The red Sow piged had Seven Pigs.

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<sup>46</sup> This was Samuel Robertson, a native of Scotland and a sailor from youth, who in 1774 was sent to Detroit by the firm of Phyn and Ellice of London to take command of a vessel in the interest of some merchants engaged in the Northwest fur trade. Robertson continued to sail the upper lakes for several years. The log of one of his cruises (in 1779) is printed in *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, XI, 203-12. In the winter of 1779-80 he was arrested at Mackinac by Governor Patrick Sinclair and sent to Montreal for trial. See documents printed in *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, IX, 618 ff. In 1782 Robertson was at Quebec, still awaiting trial; he died soon after this. In the winter of 1777-78 he married at Mackinac Catherine Askin, eldest daughter of John Askin. See *post*, 68. Two of his younger brothers were William and David Robertson, merchants of Detroit in the period 1785-96.

<sup>47</sup> Probably Richard Cornwall of the naval establishment, for whom see *post*, 178.

10<sup>th</sup> The Lake very Clear of Ice

11<sup>th</sup> Pidgeons now plenty

12<sup>th</sup> the poor white Sow had one Pig.

13<sup>th</sup> The Black Sow Pigeon pidgeons plenty

18<sup>th</sup> This day Petter Ord began to work for me at 7/  
Ster<sup>s</sup> per Week per Agreement<sup>t</sup> he to find himself in Everything

Apr<sup>l</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> Harrowed the large Garden at the Fort

Sowed some Garden pease in my Gardin

Sett a Herrin Nett yesterday & caught Seven Herring

24<sup>th</sup> This day the little Vessel the *Cap<sup>t</sup> De Peyster* taken  
out of the Fort

Hired La Boneau[?] this day of M<sup>r</sup> Campau for the remd<sup>r</sup>  
of the time he has to Serve at £3 per Month

28<sup>th</sup> This Evening About 6 'Oclock my man Toon was  
Drowned out of a small Canoe coming from the Vessell

29<sup>th</sup> this Morning he was found near the Stern of the  
Vessell

Sowed the large Garden at the Fort with Oats

Monday May the 1<sup>st</sup>

The Schooner *Cap<sup>t</sup> De Peyster* left this for the Great  
Carrying Place on Lake Superior

Sowed the large Garden with Clover Seed  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 66 foot  
Square

Sowed Garden pease in drills 3 foot apart

Sowed Turnip Seed in drills 2 foot apart with dung in the  
trench under the Seeds also parsnips

Tuesday May 2<sup>d</sup> 1775

Sowed Persley, Beets, Onions, Lettice & Barley Seeds

Mess<sup>rs</sup> Sans Chagrin & Chaboulliez arrived from the  
Grande Riviere

Wednesday May 3<sup>d</sup>

Sowed More Garden Seeds & sett Shallotts & beans

The small black Sow piked & had six Pigs

Thursday May the 4<sup>th</sup>

Pomp<sup>48</sup> Entered on Board the Sloop *Archange*

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<sup>48</sup> Pomp was one of Askin's negro slaves.

BURTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

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Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup>

Capt Cornwalls Sow piged & had Eight Pigs

Sowed Peas Oates & Clover all this last Week at the farm

Monday May 8<sup>th</sup> Sett the first Potatoes at the Fort Sowed  
pease at the Farm

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> The Blk Cow & M<sup>r</sup> Morrisons<sup>49</sup> Cow Calfed

Wensday the 10<sup>th</sup> The Sloop *Archange* Sailed for S<sup>t</sup> Mary's

Sowed some More Lettice & carrott

Seeds. planted the last of my Potatoes at the Fort

Thursday May 11<sup>th</sup> the *Chippewa* from Detroit Arrived  
here about 7 oC at Night

Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> May The *Chippawa* Sailed for Detroit ab<sup>t</sup>  
12 oClock

The first potatoes planted at the farm

Thurday May the 25<sup>th</sup> M<sup>r</sup> LaRonde Borrissa Arrived [with]  
the first canoe from Montreal

Friday May the 26<sup>th</sup> a Shower of hail as big as my finger  
afterwards rain & thunder

Monday May the 29<sup>th</sup> 1775 Transplanted Parsnip & some  
Cabbage plants three days Ago.

Tuesday May 30<sup>th</sup> Sowed some Turnip Seeds

Wensday June 6<sup>th</sup> Sowed Pease to the 10<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup>

22<sup>d</sup> June Sowed Buck Wheat

Planted Some Potatoes here in June

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<sup>49</sup> Charles Morison came to Detroit in June, 1762, in the capacity of clerk in the service of James Sterling and associates. His service proved so unsatisfactory that Sterling discharged him in August of the same year. Notwithstanding this unpromising beginning, Morison devoted his life to the Northwest trade, residing at Mackinac for upwards of forty years. His presence there in 1769 is shown by the journal of Dr. Daniel Morison (ms. in Burton Hist. Coll.). He was a friend of Askin for many years, and numerous letters, written by him in a beautiful hand, are preserved among the Askin Papers. In his will, which was made at Niagara, August 24, 1804, Morison describes himself as "now of Niagara, . . . but late of Michilimackinac." See Ontario Hist. Soc., *Papers and Records*, XXIII, 350-51. He was buried at Niagara and his tombstone inscription states that he died Sept. 6, 1802 (evidently an error for 1804), aged 65 years. It further describes him as "a native of Scotland, who resided many years at Michilimackinac as a merchant and magistrate, and since the cession of that post to the United States became a British subject by election—for loyalty to his Sovereign and integrity in his dealings he was ever remarkable." See Niagara Hist. Soc. *Publ.*, No. 19 (2 ed., Welland, 1910), 14; James Sterling letter book, ms. copy in Burton Hist. Coll.



JOHN ASKIN PAPERS

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Aug<sup>t</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> planted in a hole of about a foot deep to the right of the Old Garden Gate 6 potatoe Aples with Potatoe Stocks with them as dung from which all the roots were Cut.

Pla[n]ted same day near that 6 More potatoe Aples with a little Dung for Manure

Remarks

Thro bracking when Green, rotten Hay or any such Stuff on land where pease & Buck wheat have been, plow it in the Month of Sep<sup>r</sup> Harrow it in the Spring & Plant Potatoes with y<sup>e</sup> Plow without any more dunging.

When Potatoes are dug up in the fall Clover seeds may be sowed.

Oates, wheat, Clover or Turnips may be sowed in the spring on Land where Potatoes were the year before

Buck Wheat may be Sowed the 20<sup>th</sup> of June on Land twice plowed where Pease have been the year before.

Potatoes may be planted on Stuble Grownd with Dung

New Ground twice plowed I think best for Pease

Oates may be sowed in old Turnip Ground.

Aug<sup>t</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> 1775 Planted in a Whole about a foot deep in the Corner of the Garten a few small potatoes with their stocks, the apples taken from them & no Other Dung

Planted at Several times to the 28<sup>th</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup> potatoe Stocks without any other Manure.

Sep<sup>r</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> 1775 About 4 Inches of Snow fell this Night & Several Snow Showers Next day

Sep<sup>r</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> Sauvage Went on Board the *Archange*

Oct<sup>r</sup> 28 set three hills of potatoes near the pease Where next M<sup>r</sup> Bostwicks<sup>50</sup> Gardin one potatoe cut in 3 in the whole next the Corner, 3 whole potatoes in Each of the

<sup>50</sup> Henry Bostwick was among the first English traders to penetrate to Mackinac upon the downfall of New France. He was there at the time of the massacre in 1763, when he was captured by the Chippewa and carried to Montreal for ransom. He continued his activities in the Northwest trade, and in 1770 was a member of the company organized to exploit the Lake Superior copper mines, as described by Alexander Henry in his *Travels and Adventures*. In 1781 Bostwick was one of the signers of the treaty for the purchase of Mackinac Island from the natives. A son of Bostwick by an Ottawa woman was baptized at Mackinac in 1794; the boy, then about twelve years old, was also named Henry. *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, XVIII, 238 and XIX, 100.

BURTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

Others, the holes About 4 Inches deep, with dung in them.

About a Week ago dug all my potatoes & pulled up my turnips.

Nov<sup>r</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> Sent to S<sup>t</sup> Mary's for white fish

Nov<sup>r</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> The Black Sow Pigeon had seven Pigs finished Plowing

SALE OF NEGRO SLAVES

Know all men by these presents that I Abram Dow of the City of Albany Merchant Have made Ordained Authorized Constituted & Appointed & by these Presents do make, Ordain, Authorize Constitute & Appoint Volkert A Douw of the City of Albany Indian Trader my true & Lawfull Attorney for me & in my Name & to my Use to sell or Dispose of the One half of two Negro men by Name the One Jupiter & the Other Pompey now in the Possession of M<sup>r</sup> John Askin Merch<sup>t</sup> at Michilimackinac or Pompey Singly by himself & to give John Askin a Bill of Sale of Jupiter. In Witness whereof I the s<sup>d</sup> Abraham Douw have hereunto sett my Hand & Seal this twenty Eighth day of March in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred & Seventy five

Sealed & delivered in  
the Presence of  
Goose Van schaick  
Petter W Dow

Signed Ab<sup>m</sup> Douw (L.S.)

I do hereby Certify that the Above is a true Cobby of a Power of Attorney gave me by my Father M<sup>r</sup> Abram Douw taken from the Originall now in my Possession July the 15<sup>h</sup> 1775

Volkert A<sup>m</sup> Douw

*Endorsed:* Cobby of a Power of Attorney from M<sup>r</sup> Abraham Douw to M<sup>r</sup> Volkert Douw

KNOW all men by these Presents that I Abram Dow of Albany for & In Consideration of the Sum of One Hundred & Thirty five Pounds Lawfull Money of the Province of New York to me in Hand Paid by John Askin Deputy

JOHN ASKIN PAPERS

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Commissary at Michilimackinac the receipt whereof I do hereby Acknowledge, Have Assigned, Transferred & made Over & by these Presents do transfer Assign & make Over unto the said John Askin his Executors & Assigns all my Part or share in two Negro men One Named Pompey & the Other Jupiter being to the Value of when Purchased One Hundred & Ninety Pounds or Near that Sum New York Cur. & Every part thereof, & all Benefit, proceed, & Profit thereof, which now are or at any time hereafter shall become due or payable for the same & all my Right, title, Interest, Claim, & demand Whatsoever, of in or to the same or any part thereof: to have & to hold the said two Negro men & Every part thereof unto the s<sup>d</sup> John Askin his Executors, Administrators & Assigns, to his & their proper Use & behoof for ever. & I the said Abram Dow for myself, my Executors, Administrators & Assigns do Covenant & grant to & with the said John Askin his Executors Administrators & Assigns, that he the said John Askin his Executors Administrators & Assigns, shall & may from time to time & at all times hereafter, Lawfully Peaceably & Quietly have, hold, receive take & Enjoy, to his & their Own proper Use & behoof the said two Negro men & all & Every the proceed & profit thereof, & of Every part thereof, without any Lett, Trouble, Molestation or Interruption, of or by me the said Abram Dow my Executors, Administrators or Assigns, or any Other person or persons whatsoever, Lawfully Claiming from by or Under us, or any of Us, or by any or Either of Our Acts, Means, or Procurement. In Witness whereof I have hereunto Sett my Hand & Sale [Seal] at Michilimackinac this fifteenth day of July in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven hundred & Seventy five

Witness present  
W<sup>m</sup> Sheers.  
Michel Lalime.

Acting by Power of Attorney for  
my Father Abram Dow Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Volkert A<sup>m</sup> Dow

*Endorsed:* July the 15, 1775 M<sup>r</sup> Volkert Dow his Bill of Sale in behalf of his Father Abram Dow, of a share he held in two Negro men Named Jupiter & Pomp



## BURTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

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### SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Pardevant nous Gabriel LeGrand Notaire au detroit y Resident sousigné fut present Le s<sup>r</sup> Claude Landry dit s<sup>t</sup> andré demeurant sur sa terre a la Coste du sorois du dit detroit ou nous nous sommes transporté pour ce qui suit Cest a savoir que Le dit S<sup>r</sup> Claude Landry nous a déclaré de sa franche Et Bonne Volonté Et sans Contrainte Confesse avoir Vendu du Consantement dangelique Leduc son Epouse qui Lauthorise a Cet Effet a Lexecution des presente avoir Vendu quitté Cedé Et deLaissé Des maintenants Et a toujours Et promis faire jouir Et garantir de tous troubles Et Empeschement quelconques provenants de ses faits, Une terre de trois arpents de front sur quarante de profondeurs fixé et située a La coste du sud sur Le Bord de La Rivière du dit detroit Bornée dun costé au nord Est a Ginac Et de Lautre Costé au sorois a LeVeillié Et par derriere au terre non Consedée, circonstance Et dependance aussi Une maison dessus de seize pieds sur dix sept de piece sur pi[e]ce, sans aucune Reserve telle quelle se comporte et se tends de toute parts, a Benjamain Chappue habitants a ce present acceptant pour luy ses hoirs Et ayant Cause Et qui nous a dit bien La Connoistre pour Lavoir Venu Et Visitée Et dit Estre Contants Et satisfait, La ditte terre appartenants au dit Vendeurs qui la Reprisee de Charles Bergante a qui pierre Coquelliard La Voit Vendue, Et par faute de payment Le dit S<sup>r</sup> S<sup>t</sup> andré a Rentré dans sa terre Et qui soblige de Remettre tous Les papiers Concernant La ditte terre Entre les mains du dit acquereurs ses hoirs Et ayant Cause Cette Ventes ainsy faite pour par le dit acquereurs Usser faire Et disposer a toujours aux Charges Des cens Et Rentes droits seigneuriaux Et servitudes accoutumée, La ditte terre Relevant du domaine du Roy, Et En outre moyennants La cantité de cent minots de Bled fromant et soixante minots de bled dainde qui ont Eté payé Contant, et dont Le dit S<sup>t</sup> andré Et femme tienne Generally Quitte Le dit acquereurs pourquoy Le dit s<sup>r</sup> s<sup>t</sup> andré a transporté au dit Benjamin Chappue ses hoirs Et ayant Cause a La venir tous droits de pro-

prietté, quil peut avoir Et pretendre sur La ditte terre  
 Voulant que Le dit acquereurs Et siens en sois mis Et  
 Resseu En bonne Et paisible possession Et saisine par qui  
 Et ainsy quil apartiendre En Vertu des presentes Constitu-  
 tuant pour Cet Éffet son procureurs irrevocables Le porteurs  
 dicelles Luy En donnant pouvoir Car ainsy &° promettant  
 &° obligeant Renoncant &° fait Et passé au detroit maison  
 du dit s<sup>t</sup> andré par nous notaire sousigné apres midy Le  
 neuf juillet mil sept cent soixante quatorze presence du s<sup>r</sup>  
 jacques Godefroy habitants Demeurant au detroit, Et jean  
 LaRue demeurant a La Coste du sud tous deux temoins  
 qui ont signé Et pour Le dit Claude Landry Et angelique  
 Leduc sa femme ont déclaré ne savoir signer dont fait  
 Leurs marque ord<sup>re</sup> apres lecture faite, Et dans La minutte  
 Est Ecrit jacques Godefroy, jean LaRue par sa marque,  
 s<sup>t</sup> andré, et angelique Leduc ausi par leurs marque Et  
 Legrand notaire qui a delivré La presente Coppie qui Est  
 Veritable Et conforme a la minutte Le vingt deux avril mil  
 sept cent soixante seize

Legrand notaire

*Endorsed:* Coppie Du Contrat dacquest entre Claude  
 Landry Et Benjamin Chappue. [note by John Askin] of  
 no use now.

### Translation

BEFORE US, Gabriel Legrand,<sup>51</sup> notary residing at De-  
 troit and there resident, was present the undersigned,

<sup>51</sup> Gabriel Christopher Legrand was the son of Gabriel Louis Legrand, Sieur de Sintre and Vicomte de Mortain, and Ann Henriette Catherine de Crenay, who lived at Roche in Normandy. The son, Gabriel Christopher, enlisted in the army and came to Detroit as surgeon major of the garrison. Here he married, April 17, 1758, Mary Magdalené Chapoton, who was born at Detroit, May 17, 1739, the daughter of Jean Chapoton and Mary Magdelene Estève. She was buried at Detroit, January 7, 1763 (for her will, see *Burton Hist. Coll. Leaflet*, III, 9-10), and Legrand married (second), July 26, 1764, Veronica Réaume, daughter of Pierre Réaume and Susanne Lacroix, born at Detroit, Feb. 2, 1745. Legrand was the father of several children by each marriage. See Denissen, *op. cit.* He was a man of varied occupations. Although he came to Detroit as a surgeon, the Pontiac Ms. of 1763 characterizes him as a judge "appointed in place of Mr. St. Cosme" (entry for May 20, 1763). Of his work as notary Burton says: "He seems to have been incompetent for some reason, and not finding sufficient employment in Detroit, he wandered off to Kaskaskia to reside, and there succeeded in getting the land titles so badly mixed up that the land commissioners made loud complaint of his inefficiency." *City of Detroit, 1701-1922*, I, 169.

Claude Landry *dit* St. André,<sup>52</sup> living on his land southwest of the said Detroit, whither we went for the purpose following, viz: That the said Claude Landry declares that of his own free will and without constraint of any kind, also with the consent of his wife, Angélique Le Duc, who gives him authority to act for her in this respect, he has sold, released, ceded and given over, henceforth and forever, with right of disposal and guaranty from all troubles and hindrances whatsoever that may arise from any action of his own, a tract of land of three arpents in front by forty in depth located and situated on the south bank of the river of the said Detroit, adjoining land of Gignac<sup>53</sup> on the northeast and of LeVeillié on the southwest, and unceded lands in the rear, with all its dependencies, also a log house on the above land, sixteen by seventeen feet, the whole without reserve such as it is and as it extends on every side, to Benjamin Chaput, farmer, by these presents accepting the same for himself, his heirs and assigns, who also says that he knows the said land, having seen and examined it, and that he is content and satisfied therewith, the said land being the property of the said vendors, who took it back from Charles Bergante to whom Pierre Coquillard<sup>54</sup> had sold it, and by default of payment the said St. André has re-entered into possession of his land and he hereby binds himself to place all documents concerning the said land into the hands of the said purchasers, their heirs and assigns, that they may, by the sale thus made, have full use of the

<sup>52</sup> Claude Landry *dit* St. André, born in France in 1707. He enlisted in the army and in this capacity came to Detroit with the rank of corporal. He married here, May 1, 1743, Angélique Le Duc, born in 1725, daughter of Jean Baptiste Le Duc and Catherine Descary. He was buried under the church at Detroit, July 16, 1777. The widow, Angélique, was buried Sept. 29, 1801. Denissen, *op. cit.*

<sup>53</sup> Probably this was Joseph Mary Gignac. His grandfather, Francis Gignac, was a native of France who migrated to Canada and settled at Cap Sante. Joseph married there, on Jan. 11, 1745, Magdelene Galorneau. Their descendants were numerous at Detroit, but nothing has been learned concerning the date the family moved here.

<sup>54</sup> The founder of the American line of Coquillards was Pierre Serat *dit* Coquillard, a mason by trade, who was born in the diocese of La Rochelle in 1640 and married at Lachine, Nov. 17, 1687, Frances Sabourin, daughter of Jean Sabourin, and Mathurine Regnaut of Quebec. The couple had two sons, Francis and Pierre. The latter married at Longueil, Mary Antoinette Robidou, Feb. 17, 1721. Their son, Pierre Serat *dit* Coquillard, is the person noted in this document. He was born at Montreal, Nov. 10, 1723, and buried at Sandwich, Sept. 28, 1793. He married at Longueil, Dec. 1, 1742, Teresa Brossard, who was buried at Sandwich, May 3, 1798. The Coquillard descendants and family connections were numerous and widespread. Denissen, *op. cit.*



said land forever, with power for its disposal, subject to the charges of *cens et rentes*, seigniorial rights and customary service, the said land being holden from the domain of the King, and a further charge of one hundred minots of wheat and sixty minots of corn which have been paid in full, and from which the said St. André and his wife give the said purchasers unconditional release, wherefore the said St. André has assigned to the said Benjamin Chaput, his heirs and assigns, all his rights of ownership, real or pretended, upon the said land, that the said purchasers may enter into good and peaceable possession and seizin hereby, and that it may belong to them by virtue of these presents, irrevocably substituting for that purpose the bearer hereof in his place, in giving to them his power hereby, &c., promising &c., obliging, &c., renouncing &c. Duly executed at Detroit, in the house of the said St. André, by us, the notary undersigned, on the afternoon of July the ninth, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four, in the presence of Jacques Godfroy,<sup>55</sup> resident of Detroit, and of Jean La Rue,<sup>56</sup> living on the south

<sup>55</sup> The Godfroy family is one of ancient and wide renown in France. Jacques Godfroy, the first American ancestor of the person mentioned here, was born in a suburb of Rouen in 1653 and married at Three Rivers, Canada, June 30, 1683, Jane Brunet, daughter of Pierre Brunet and Mary Catherine Cottin. Their son, Jacques Godfroy de Mauboeuf, born at Three Rivers, July 17, 1684, about the year 1710, in partnership with Paul Chevalier and Joseph Senecal began to trade with Detroit. Godfroy married, about the year 1714, Mary St. Onge *dit* Chêne, a native of Montreal, and about the year 1719 removed his family to Detroit, where his son Jacques was born, Jan. 6, 1722. Jacques married (first) Frances L'Eveille, an Indian woman, who died before 1758. He then married (second) Louisa Clotilda Chapoton, daughter of Jean Chapoton and Mary Magdelene Estève. She was buried at Detroit, Sept. 18, 1762. Because of his services as interpreter to the Indians, Godfroy secured as wife the favorite daughter of a Miami chief. This occurred after the death of Louisa Chapoton, and it is uncertain whether the union was regarded as a legal marriage. Three children were born of the union with Louisa Chapoton. Godfroy was a trader and an officer in the militia. During the siege of 1763 he espoused the cause of the savages and for this (having previously taken an oath of allegiance to the British government) he was seized and sentenced to be hung for treason. He was pardoned by Colonel John Bradstreet, however, on condition that he conduct Captain Thomas Morris to the Illinois country. He faithfully discharged this duty, and was praised by Morris for his fidelity. Godfroy was buried at Detroit, June 29, 1795. His relatives were many and his family connections widespread. See Denissen, *op. cit.*, and R. G. Thwaites (ed.), *Early Western Travels*, I, 302.

<sup>56</sup> Jean La Rue (Larue) *dit* Bayonne, was a native of the diocese of Axe in Lower Guyenne, France. He married at Detroit, Aug. 25, 1770, Elizabeth Bineau, who was born here May 8, 1754, daughter of Louis Bineau and Magdelene Lereau. They had two daughters: Isabella, born at Detroit, March 23, 1772, and Mary Catherine, born at Sandwich, March 10, 1774. Information adapted from Denissen, *op. cit.*

side [of the river] both witnesses who have signed, and the said Claude Landry and Angélique LeDuc, his wife, who have testified that they cannot sign, have made their customary mark after hearing these presents read, and in the original is written, Jacques Godfroy, Jean LaRue, by mark, St. André and Angélique LeDuc, also by their marks, and Notary Legrand, who has delivered the present copy, which is a true copy and conformable to the original, this twenty-second day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

LE GRAND,—Notary

*Endorsed:* Copy of the contract of purchase, between Claude Landry and Benjamin Chaput.

One Jean La Rue, possibly the same individual, appears in the *Kaskaskia Records* (*Ill. Hist. Colls.*, V.) as a resident of that place in 1779 and subsequent years.