

SECTION V

LETTERS AND PAPERS: 1787-1789

FROM JOHN BURNET TO JOHN ASKIN

Plymouth 6th March 87

My Dear Sir It seems to me a long while since I had any communication with my friends at Detroit. I hope they will do me more justice than to suppose this proceeds on my side from any want of regard to those with whom I passed so many happy days—and my pride will not let me suppose I am forgotten by the friends I so much esteem—even if I had any thing worth your paying postage for it was not the Season to get a letter to Detroit.

I have not heard from you since the letter wherein you express yourself so kindly with respect to the Ballance between us—it has cost me many a painful thought that my circumstances and situation is so changed as to be hard run for such a small sum—yet small as it is I am grieved it is still unpaid—but I have for some time felt myself much relieved by recollecting that M^r Laughton never accounted to me or you for all the time Paddy Edgar was employed as a Sawyer in the Yard.

The books must alwise be forth coming. I therefore authorize you to demand the same from his first employment which was in the month of December & to give receipt to M^r Laughton for the wages he pays you, which will over Ballance my account with you, and which he cannot withhold—this relieves my mind on that score.

I am so far removed from all intelligence that I know not what passes in your part of the World. I hope the return of the Spring Vessels will let us know that you & your worthy Rib & Children are well, & that you all passed your Winter happily. We have had you all Burnt, swallowed by Earthquake, Attacked & taken by the Americans, &c &c but I have no fears, doubts or difficulties in believing it all false and that you are all alive and well as my most sanguine wishes could make you.

BURTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

With respect to myself all I can say is that we are well—and as happy as poverty will admit of—Our destination is not announced we hope to remain here another year. Mercer I presume will answer for himself, but if he dont write by the same Ship this goes, be assure[d] he & Phillis are well so are their two girls who are very fine Children especially Charlotte who is remarkably clever.

Adieu my dear Sir mention me in the most friendly terms to M^{rs} Askin whom I respect & esteem, also to Barthe & all friends in Detroit I write to Grant this evening. I am ever with the most sincere regard yours

J Burnet¹

Addressed: M^r John Askin Merchant Detroit Care of Mess^{rs} Todd & M^cGill Montreal

Charges: Ship—11½

Endorsed: Plymouth March 6th 1787 Cap^t Burnett to Jn^o Askin Rec^d July 20th

BILL OF SALE OF JOSIAH CUTTEN²

KNOW all Men by these Presents that I, Elijah Cooper of Williams-town-bay-State, or Boston-State in North America, Farmer & Shoemaker for and in Consideration of the Sum of Thirty two Pound, ten Shillings of lawful Money of the Province of Quebec and one gray Horse, in Hand paid and delivered to me, by John Turner of Montreal in the said Province, Merchant, at and before the sealing and delivery of these Presents, the Receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge—HAVE bargained, sold, released, granted and confirmed, and by these Presents DO, and doth bargain, sell,

¹ John Burnet was commissioned a lieutenant in 1764, and in 1768 was appointed to the Eighth Regiment. Portions of this regiment served under De Peyster at Mackinac and Detroit throughout the entire period of the Revolution, and it may be inferred that Burnet thus served at the two posts. Documents in the *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XIX, 535 and XX, 55, show that he was at Detroit in 1780 and 1782.

² For the later career of Cutten see *post*, 410, where his name appears as Joseph Cotton.

release, grant, and confirm unto the said John Turner, a certain Negro-Man, of the Age of Twenty-two Years or thereabouts, called Josiah Cutten, all my Right, Title, Claim, and Demand whatsoever to Him—To have and hold the said Negro-man by these Presents, bargained, sold, released, granted, and confirmed unto the said John Turner to the only proper Use and Behoof of the said John Turner, his Executors, Administrators, and Assigns for & during the Term of his natural Life. And I the said Elijah Cooper for myself, Executors, and Administrators, the said Negro-man unto the said John Turner, his Executors, Administrators and Assigns against myself, my Executors, Administrators and Assigns, and against all and every other Person and Persons whatsoever shall and will warrant, and for-ever defend by these Presents; of which Negro-man I the said Elijah Cooper have put the said John Turner in Possession by Delivering him at the Time of Sealing and Delivering these Presents.

IN WITNESS whereof I the said Elijah Cooper hath hereunto set my Hand and Seal at Montreal aforesaid the eighteenth Day of February in the Year of Our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eightyfive.

Signed, sealed and delivered Elijah Cooper (L.S.)
in the Presence of us:

James Nelson

R^d Warffe

John Turner, Junior.

BILL OF SALE OF JOSIAH CUTTEN

KNOW all men by these presents, That I, John Turner of the City of Montreal in the Province of Quebec Merchant, for and in Consideration of the Sum of Fifty pounds Current Lawful Money of this Province to me in hand paid by M^r David Rankin of the same place Merchant, the Receipt Whereof is hereby Acknowledged, have Bargained Sold and delivered, And by these presents Do Bargain, Sell and Deliver to the said David Rankin a Negro Man named Josiah Cutten aged Twentytwo Years or there-

abouts; TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said Negro Man named Josiah Cutten unto the said David Rankin, his Executors Administrators and assigns, during the Term of his Natural life; And I the said John Turner for myself my Heirs, Executors and Administrators unto the said David Rankin his Heirs and Assigns against all person and persons shall and will Warrant and defend the said Negro Man Josiah Cutten by these presents; IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Montreal aforesaid, this twenty Ninth day of March in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and eighty five.

Sealed and Delivered

John Turner (L.S.)

in presence of

W^m Murray

In praemissorum Fidem

J. G. Beek

(L.S.personalis) Not^s Pub^s

Signed by David Rankin in presence of David Rankin
James Ellice

BILL OF SALE OF JOSIAH CUTTEN

KNOW ALL MEN by these presents that We, William S^t Clair & C^o of Detroit Merchants for and in Consideration of the sum of One hundred and Twenty Pounds New York Currency payable on or before the first day of May next in Indian Corn & Flour by Thomas Duggan³ of said place have bargained, Sold and Delivered, and do hereby Bargain, sell and Deliver unto the said Thomas Duggan a Negroe Man Named Josiah Cutten Aged Twenty four Years or thereabouts, To have and to hold the said Negroe Man Josiah Cutten unto the said Thomas Duggan his Executors, Ad-

³ Thomas Duggan was long an officer of the British Indian Department in the Northwest—during his later years in the capacity of Indian storekeeper at St. Joseph Island, where he died, December 17, 1803. Prior to this time there had been much complaint over the conduct of his office, and by him of ill health and of hard treatment by the government. In a letter of May, 1801, he stated that he had been "at least thirty years in Government Service" and the lowest employment he had had was that of assistant to the barrack-master at Quebec in 1766. Duggan was for some time connected with the Indian Department at Detroit, and many letters of and references to him are in the *Mich. Pio. Colls.*

ministrators and Assigns during the term of his Natural Life; and We the said William S^t Clair & C^o for ourselves Heirs Executors and Administrators unto the said Thomas Duggan his Heirs and Assigns against all person and persons shall and will warrant and defend the said Negroe Man Josiah Cutten by these presents: In Witness Whereof We have hereunto set our hand & Seal at Detroit aforesaid this Thirteenth day of January in the Year of Our Lord One Thousand Seven hundred and Eighty Seven.

Signed, Sealed & Delivered William S^tClair & C^o (L.S.)
in the Presence of Thomas Duggan
James Douglas
John Urquhart

[Marginal note] N.B. the above alterations (insertion of "& C^o" and use of third person plural for first person singular) were made by me before Signed by me. W S^tClair.

Appended: I hereby transfer all my right and title to the above said Negroe and to this act for and in consideration of a Farm at the River Tranch [Thames] of Nine acres in front more or less with the Titles thereto to me now delivered, this 28th March 1791.

Thomas Duggan

Endorsed:

Bill of Sale given by Elijah Cooper Boston-State with Josiah the Negro Feb. 18, 1785—Consideration 130 Dol^s & the Gray Horse. Elijah Cooper gave J. Turner Thirty one Dollars to be paid to the Negro occasionally, which was paid to him this day 6th April 1785.

Beek

[The last clause only of this endorsement, and the date, are in the handwriting of the notary, J. G. Beek.]

Filed in my office by Thomas Duggan at L'assomption this 22nd day of March 1790.

T Smith Clk P.⁴

⁴ Thomas Smith was a native of Wales and a man of varied attainments. He served on the British side in the Revolution and either he or another person of the same name is listed as an inhabitant of Detroit in the census of 1779. He was a surveyor

Attached: Detroit 2^d May 1787. We acknowledge to have received of M^r Thomas Duggan the Sum of One hundred and twenty Pounds New York Currency being in full for a Negroe Man We sold him named Joseph Cuten

W S^t Clair & C^o

GOODS OF LOUIS LORIMIER SEIZED

L'an Mil Sept Cens Quatrevingt sept le quatre du May a neuf heurs du Matin en Consequence de la requeste de l'autre part de Mons^r Hugh Heward demande et charge de procuracy aux Effets contre Mons^r Louis Lorimier vû aussi notre Decret cy Contre de ce meme Jour, Nous Don Antonio De Oro Capitaine au Reg^t fix de la Louisianne Commandant Civil et militaire au poste de S^t Genevieve des Illinois accompagnes des Messieurs Pedro Apparicio et Fra^s Le Cler Temoins assistance a Defaut de Notaire Nous sommes exprès transportes au Domicile de Mons^r Fra^s Valle Sous Lieutenant de Miliece en ce dit poste ou ont ete disposes les Marchandises et Effets du dit Sieur Louis Lorimier ou etant nous avons procede á l'Invantaire estimatif et Discription exact de diverses Marchandises et Effets appertinent au dit Sieur Louis Lorimier conduites en ce poste en Dieux Voitures conduites et sus le Direction de Mons^r Louis Largeau et une autre Voiture conduite et sous le Direction de Mons^r

and in addition to much private work he drew a plan of Detroit in 1796, and a decade later was employed to survey and lay out the town after the fire of 1805. In this connection he subsequently complained that his original plan was mangled by Judge Woodward who "obliged subsequent Surveyors to perform his whimsical schemes notwithstanding remonstrances. The Plan in its original form drew the attention of scientific persons, and from its novelty it is to be regretted it was not continued." Smith was long engaged in merchandising and one of his ms. account books is preserved in the Burton Hist. Coll. He was a man of considerable education, familiar with both French and English, and in the summer of 1788 was appointed by Lord Dorchester, clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, then newly instituted at Detroit. He was also, at this time, deputy surveyor and notary. He was intensely loyal to Great Britain, and in 1796 elected to remain a British subject and removed to Petite Côte on the south bank of Detroit River a short distance below Sandwich. Here he died, March 3, 1833, aged seventy-nine years. He married Angélique Charlotte Crête, daughter of Jean Baptiste Crête and Mary Joseph Aymond, who came from Lower Canada to Detroit in 1772 and located on a farm at the Grand Marais in Grosse Pointe. Many of their descendants are numbered among the present-day residents of Detroit. Information adapted from Denissen, *op. cit.*; *Mich. Pio. Colls., passim*, especially XXV, 142-45; and *Proc. of Land Board of Detroit*, 154-55.

Pierre Jaffray toutes lesquelles Marchandises et Effets nous ont ete representes par le dit Sieur Louis Largeau sous le Serment qu'il en a fait en nos Mains de non obmettre au detourner aucune Chose—Iceux prises et estimes par Mess^{rs} Fra^s Vallé Jean Bap^t pratte Louis Deloriers et Jean Dodge Estimateurs nommies par notre Decret lesquell ont promis le tout priser et estimer en leur Ame et Conscience en egard au Temps et ont Signe avec nous Commandant Civil et Militaire a Defaut de Notaire (Signé) [Fra^s] Vallé, John Dodge, Pratte, Louis Largeau, Delorie, Fra^s LeCler, Antonio de Oro.

Translation

In the year one thousand seven hundred eighty-seven, on the fourth day of May, at nine o'clock in the morning, in response to the request of Hugh Heward,⁵ as given on the next page, solicited and commissioned with power to seize the effects of Louis Lorimier, and also considering our decree of the same day, we, Don Antonio de Oro,⁶ captain of the regular Louisiana militia, civil and military commandant

5 Ste. Genevieve was at this time a garrisoned settlement in Spanish Louisiana on the opposite side of the river from Kaskaskia. Heward had come to Kaskaskia as agent for the Miamis Company, to which Lorimier was indebted. On April 15, 1787, George Ironside wrote from Miamitown to David Gray, then at Vincennes: "Lorimier is fled from the face of his creditors & gone to the Illinois—may the Devil be his pilot." See *Indiana Quarterly Magazine of History*, V, 152. On conditions at Ste. Genevieve see Louis Houck, *History of Missouri*, I, 356-62.

6 This document establishes for Antonio de Oro an importance unsuspected hitherto by historians of Spanish Louisiana. The commandant of Ste. Genevieve from 1779 to 1784 was Don Sylvio Francisco de Cartabona, a lieutenant in the Spanish army, whose full name was Don Sylvio Francisco de Cartabona de Oro. The name "de Oro" puzzled Houck (*op. cit.*, I, 346-47), who states that in 1772 there was in St. Louis a merchant and also officer of the garrison, named Antonio X. Joseph de Oro, who may have been related to Don Sylvio Francisco. He adds that Antonio "lived in St. Louis 13 years, rose to the rank of Captain and died in Ste. Genevieve in August, 1787."

A piquant and interesting characterization of the commandant of Ste. Genevieve, written by Father Pierre Gibault, June 6, 1786, is printed in *The Kaskaskia Records*, 540-41. Prof. Alvord, the editor, was much perplexed over the identity of the commandant whom Gibault thus describes. The present document renders it highly probable that he was none other than Don Antonio de Oro.

According to Frederic L. Billon, *Annals of St. Louis . . . under the French and Spanish Dominations* (St. Louis, 1886), 246-47, de Oro was ordered from St. Louis to Ste.

of the post of Ste. Genevieve of the Illinois, accompanied by Pedro Apparicio and François Leclerc,⁷ as witnesses and assistants, in the absence of a notary, have therefore repaired to the dwelling of François Vallé,⁸ sub-lieutenant of militia at the said post, where were disposed the merchandise and effects of the said Louis Lorimier, and having so repaired, we proceeded to take an inventory and exact description of the different goods and effects belonging to the said Louis Lorimier, brought to the post in two wagons in the charge of Louis Largeau, and another wagon in charge of Pierre Jaffray, all of which goods and effects have been represented to us under oath by the said Louis Largeau as given into our hands with nothing omitted or reserved. These [goods and effects] have been appraised and estimated by François Vallé, Jean Bte. Pratte,⁹ Louis Delorier and John Dodge,¹⁰ appraisers named by our decree, who promised on

Genevieve in 1774, and continued there until his death in August, 1787. Billon prints the inventory of his effects, taken subsequent to his death, and signed, among others, by Dorothy de Oro and François Leclerc.

7 According to Houck, *op. cit.*, I, 350, François Leclerc, in 1776, married Mary Louise, daughter of Don Francisco Vallé. The father was a descendant of Pierre La Vallée who migrated from near Rouen, Normandy, to Beauport, Canada, in 1645. His grandson, Francisco Vallé, migrated from Canada to Kaskaskia, and from the latter place (subsequent to Clark's invasion of the Illinois) to Ste. Genevieve, where he died in 1783. The Vallé family was one of the foremost in the Illinois country. A son of the founder, Don Francisco Jr., was commandant of Ste. Genevieve from 1796 until his death in 1804, and was succeeded by his brother, Jean Baptiste Vallé, the latter receiving his appointment from Governor William Henry Harrison of Indiana Territory. See Houck, *op. cit.*, I, 349-50. Antonio de Oro died in August, 1787. Leclerc was one of the witnesses who signed the inventory of his effects. See Billon, *op. cit.*, 247.

8 The member of the Vallé family here mentioned was probably Francisco Vallé Jr., son of the founder of the family in the Illinois. He was commandant of Ste. Genevieve from 1796 until his death in 1804. One of his daughters married Robert T. Brown, a member of the Missouri constitutional convention of 1820; another married Dr. Walter Fenwick, who was killed in a duel by T. T. Crittenden; another, Joseph Pratte; and the fourth, Captain Wilkinson.

9 Jean Baptiste Pratte was living in the old village of Ste. Genevieve in 1772, and in 1799 he claimed to have lived in the country for fifty years. The family came to Ste. Genevieve from Fort Chartres. Pratte was a man of wealth and of influence, at least locally. In 1808 he was one of the trustees of Ste. Genevieve Academy, of which Mann Butler, subsequently notable as the historian of Kentucky, was teacher. Prior to 1803 he owned forty-five slaves and twelve houses and outbuildings. In 1797 he claimed a large grant of land on the Saline River, where he cleared a portion of the tract, erected buildings, and had a large herd of stock. See Houck, *op. cit.*, I, 340, 352-54; III, 67.

10 John Dodge was born in Connecticut, July 12, 1751. Before his nineteenth year he found his way to the Ohio country, and at or prior to the opening of the Revolution,

their soul and conscience to appraise and estimate everything as quickly as possible, and have signed with us, the civil and military Commandant, acting in the absence of a notary. (Signed) Vallé, John Dodge, Pratte, Louis Largeau, Delorier, François Leclerc, Antonio de Oro

ORDERS FOR DETROIT MILITIA

Ordres Circulaires au Corps de Milice du district de detroit

Son Excellence my Lord Dorchester a jugé a propos d'ordonner que les Milices de ce district soient formé dans un Regiment, et réglé en toutes façons selon l'Ordonnance de la Province pour cet effet, et que ce Corps consiste d'un Lieu^t Colonel, d'un Major, et chaque Compagnie d'un Capitaine, deux Lieutenants, et un Ensigne. Et comme il a plus a sa Seigneurie de nommer Duperon Baby Ecuyer Lieu^t Colonel Commandant, et le Capitaine M^cGregor Major de ce Regiment, il est ordonné a tous les Officiers et autres Miliciens de les reconnoitre et leur obeir comme tels.

La Compagnie de la Ville etant trop nombreuse, sera divisé en deux, dont le Sieur Jean Askin est nommé Capitaine d'une, les Sieurs Jaque Baby et George Meldrum les Lieutenants, et les Sieurs Jean Martin Sen^r et Angus M^cIntosh Ensigns pour les deux Compagnies.

Sa Seigneurie a confirmé les Commissions des Autres Officiers comme elles sont, et a envoyé une Comission d'Ensign pour chaque Compagnie, qui seront remisent a chaque

to Detroit. Here he purchased a house, engaged in trade, and endured long imprisonment at the hands of Governor Hamilton, supposedly by reason of his sympathy for the colonial cause. In 1778 he was sent down to Quebec, whence he succeeded in escaping to the American side. In 1779 was published at Philadelphia a narrative of his captivity at Detroit and elsewhere which attracted wide attention, and the charges made in it against Governor Hamilton were the basis for the harsh treatment of the latter by the Virginia authorities while he underwent imprisonment at Williamsburg. Dodge subsequently made his way to the Illinois country, where the remoteness from civilization and the unsettled conditions following the war afforded a fertile field for the exercise of his peculiar talents. After a stormy career here, he sought refuge on the Spanish side of the river in 1787; he died in the vicinity of Ste. Genevieve prior to the year 1800. His captivity narrative was reprinted at Cedar Rapids in 1909, under the editorship of C. M. Burton. See, also, C. W. Alvord, *The Illinois Country, 1673-1818* (Springfield, 1920), *passim*.

Capitaine pour leurs etre distribué et les faire reconnoitre en cette qualite.

Au detroit 9 Sept^r 1787
R Mathews, Maj^r 53^d Reg^t Comd^t

Translation

General Orders for the Militia of Detroit District

His Excellency, Lord Dorchester, has thought proper to issue directions that the militia of this district be formed into a regiment conforming in every respect to the military regulations of this Province; said regiment to consist of a lieutenant colonel, a major, and each company to have a captain, two lieutenants, and an ensign. Moreover since it is the pleasure of His Excellency to appoint Duperon Baby, Esq.,¹¹ the lieutenant colonel in command, and Captain McGregor,¹² the major of this regiment, it is further

¹¹ The founder of the Baby family in America was Jacques Baby, who was born in the diocese of Agens, in 1633. He enlisted in the army, joining the famous regiment of Carignan, which was sent by Louis XIV to Canada to defend that province against the Iroquois. In 1670 he married Jane Dandonneau, who was born at Three Rivers, July 29, 1655. They had twelve children born in the years 1671-88; the last was Raymond, born posthumously, Dec. 16, 1688, and from him all the later Baby generations trace their descent.

Jacques Baby had engaged in the Indian trade, and Raymond followed the same career. He was in Detroit as early as 1716, when he witnessed the baptism of two savages. He married at Montreal, June 9, 1721, Teresa Lecompte *dit* Dupré, and to them eleven children were born. Jacques Baby *dit* Duperon, our present subject, was born Jan. 4, 1731. He grew up habituated to the forest, and in the Seven Years' War, together with three of his brothers, he distinguished himself as a leader of Indians in forays along the upper Ohio frontier. On one or more occasions during the course of the war he was sent to Detroit, and he is supposed to have been the one who acted as spokesman for the French inhabitants in negotiating the surrender in 1760. However this may be, it is certain that he settled here at the close of the war, and until his death in the summer of 1789 he was one of the most influential of the French residents of Detroit. On Nov. 23, 1760, he married Susanne Réaume, daughter of Pierre Réaume and Susanne Hubert *dit* La Croix. In 1762 they were living in Faubourg Ste. Rosalie (modern Sandwich), although in later years they seem to have lived in the town of Detroit. They had twenty-two children, about half of whom died in childhood. Of those who grew to maturity, one daughter married Captain William Caldwell; another married Captain Thomas Allison of the regular army; and another married Lieutenant Allan Bellingham. One son studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh and three became officers in the British army, one of whom attained the rank of major general. Another son, Jacques, is noted below. See Casgrain, *op. cit.*, and mss. in Burton Hist. Coll.

¹² Gregor McGregor was born in 1738 and as early as 1774 was engaged in trade at Detroit. During the Revolution he was in the service of the Indian Department with the rank of captain, this connection being terminated by order of General



JACQUES DUPERON BABY
*Reproduced from a photographic copy in the
Burton Historical Collection*

ordered that all the officers and other militiamen shall recognize and obey them as such.

The town company being too large, it is to be divided into two companies, Mr. John Askin to be the captain of one; Messrs. Jacques Baby¹³ and George Meldrum¹⁴ the lieutenants, and Messrs. John Martin Sr., and Angus Mackintosh,¹⁵ the ensigns, of the two companies.

Haldimand, June 21, 1784. In July, 1788, he was appointed by Lord Dorchester sheriff for the District of Hesse, and thus became the first to hold this office at Detroit. About the same time he was appointed Superintendent of Inland Navigation, and the present document shows that he was serving as major of militia at Detroit, of which he seems to have been, in 1791, in chief command. On the American occupation of Detroit McGregor removed to the south side of the river and established his home at Petite Côte. Here he died, Nov. 24, 1810.

He married at Detroit, Aug. 12, 1776, Regina Susanne Robert, daughter of Anthony Robert and Mary Louisa Bequemont. Of their nine children, James, the eldest, married Margaret Chabert. Ann became the second wife of Dr. Robert Richardson, following the death of Madelaine Askin, his first wife. Susanne married William Duff. McGregor had a farm at Grosse Pointe, which he continued to own and to operate by tenants as late as the close of 1806. Information adapted from Denissen, *op. cit.*, and mss. in Burton Hist. Coll., *passim*.

13 Jacques (James) Baby, son of Jacques Baby dit Duperon and Susanne Réaume, was born at Detroit, August 25, 1763, and died at Toronto, February 19, 1833. He was educated at Quebec and traveled extensively in Europe. Returning to Detroit, he resided here and (after the British evacuation) on the south side of the river until the close of the War of 1812. The Baby mansion which still stands in Windsor near the Hydroelectric Station, was being erected by him for a residence when the war opened. By the war, Baby suffered extensive property losses, and being appointed to public office at Toronto, he resided there from about the year 1816. He served as colonel of Kent County militia during the war, and his home at Windsor served successively as headquarters for Generals Hull and Harrison. Baby served for many years as Inspector of Finances for Upper Canada, and as member of the Executive and Legislative councils, being president of the latter body. He married, about the year 1801, Elizabeth Abbott, daughter of James Abbott of Detroit, and to them six children were born. See Casgrain, *op. cit.*

14 George Meldrum, born about 1737, engaged in trade at Detroit as early as 1768. In 1772 he purchased a lot from George Knaggs and in 1774 was compelled to apologize to Justice Dejean for some offense committed against the dignity of the latter. For many years thereafter he was prominent in trade and as a citizen at Detroit. In 1788 Lord Dorchester appointed him one of the commissioners of the then newly created District of Hesse. In 1796 he signified his intention of remaining a British subject, but he did not do so, for he continued to live in Detroit until his death, April 9, 1817. For many years he was a member of the firm of Meldrum and Park. He married Mary Catherine Angélique Chapoton about the year 1782. She was buried in Ste. Anne's churchyard, March 4, 1815. They had several sons and daughters. George Meldrum was the owner of considerable real estate in Detroit, one piece being the tract known as the Meldrum farm, or Private Claim 18. See *Proc. of Land Board of Detroit*, 155-57.

15 Angus McIntosh was born near Inverness, Scotland, in 1762. His father, head of the McIntosh clan, had been an active supporter of the cause of Prince Charles Edward Stuart, and his mother had taken the field in person at the head of the clansmen and perpetrated the rout of Moy. The failure of the rebellion entailed the forfeiture of the family estate, which was probably the indirect cause of Angus Mc-

BURTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

His Excellency has confirmed the present commissions of the other officers and has sent a commission for the ensign of each company which will be placed in the hands of the captains to be by them given to the ensigns and to have them recognized in that capacity.

Detroit, September 9, 1787

R. Mathews, Major 53d Regiment Commanding.

CONTRACT BETWEEN GABRIEL HUNOT AND THE MIAMIS COMPANY

Accord faite au Detroit le 13 de Septembre 1787 entre la Societé des Miamis et Gabriel Hunot Traiteur.

Le Sieur Gabriel Hunot en consideration de ce que sera mentioné si apres s'engagé à la dit Societé en qualite de Traiteur avec les Sauvages du datte du present jusques au premiere du Juliet 1788 pour aller traiter pour eux seulement à la riviere au Huron ou se dependance avoir soin dans la route comme au lieu de traite de tout les Merchandisses, Peltrie, Vivre &c., qui lui sera remis entre les mains en Envoye appertenant à la dite Societé, fair leur profit, eviter leur perte, et en avertir si il vient à sa Connaisance et en un mot fair son devoir en qulité de bon Traiteur si conformant en tout chose legetime et honette qui lui sera Indique ou ordonner par eux ou leur representant et sans fair aucune traite particulier ou s'absentir de leur Service pour le tems specifie dans cette conventions, sous pain de

Intosh's coming to Canada and Detroit in early manhood. In 1788 he married Mary Archange Baudry *dit* Desbuttes *dit* St. Martin, daughter of Jacques Baudry *dit* Desbuttes *dit* St. Martin and Mary Ann Navarre. On the American occupation of Detroit McIntosh removed to the south side of the river, where he built a mansion called Moy House, which was still standing a few years since. He prospered in trade, and it has frequently been stated that he was local factor of the Hudson's Bay Company, but his connection was, in fact, with the North West Company. His wife died at Moy House, July 13, 1827, and is buried in Assumption churchyard at Sandwich. In 1831 McIntosh returned to Scotland to enter into belated inheritance of Moy Hall, the ancestral home, taking with him his sons. There he died, Jan. 25, 1833. His eldest child, Ann, born at Detroit in 1789, married here in 1811 Henry Jackson Hunt, who subsequently became the second mayor of Detroit. See Denissen, *op. cit.*, and sketch in *Burton Hist. Coll. Leaflet*, III, No. 3, 38-39.

perdre la Salair et tout les avantages mentioné dans cette Accord, les tout pour et moyant la Somme de Sept Cens Cinquante Livres Ancienne Chellins de Quebec, etre nouris et logis selon la Coutume de cette Endroit et comme le dite Sieur Gabriel Hunot doit un certain Somme à son vieux Equiper pour lui fournir la moyant de satisfaire, la Societé s'oblige autre de ce dessus mentioné—que en cas les retours du dit Gabriel Hunot en Peltrie, et bon Merchandisses que restra seulement; si montera le premiere de Juliet 1788 à un plus gross Somme que les Merchandisses &c qu'il aura eux pour traiter, la Somme qu'on lui donne, la Salaire des Homme et en un mot tout autre fraix que regarde l'envoye de la Societé par lui; que le profit ou surplus sera rabattre sur les vieux debt que doit du particulier de la Societé etant vieux Equiper; et pourquoi le dite Sieur Gabriel Hunot sera à meme de Scavoir si il a gagné ou non, il aura des facteur exact de tout ce que la Societé lui remettra pour traiter pour eux avec les fraix ainsi du reste de la meme façon comme si la Societé lui avoit Equiper.

En presence de Temoine
Tho^s Smith

Pour La Societé de Miamis
John Askin Directeur

^{sa}
Gabriel X Hunot
Mark ordinaire

The above approved by the Directors of the Miamis Co.
T Smith

Endorsed: Marché passé au Detroit entre la Societé des Miamis et Gabriel Hunot Traiteur au Riviere aux Huron. Detroit 13 Septembre 1787. Duplicata.

Translation

Agreement entered into at Detroit, September 13, 1787, between the Miamis Company and Gabriel Hunot, trader.

In consideration of what follows, Mr. Gabriel Hunot has engaged with the said company to trade with the Indians from the date of these presents until July 1, 1788; to work

exclusively in the interests of the company at the River Huron and its dependencies; to be responsible for the care of all merchandise, peltries, and provisions both in transport and at the trading places, which will be shipped to him and will be in his charge as the property of the said company; to be zealous for their interest, to avoid all that would tend to their loss, and to warn them of impending losses should he have knowledge of such; briefly, this contract binds him to do his duty as a good trader, to conform to the orders of the company or its representative in all things lawful and honest, to engage in no private enterprise and not to absent himself from the service of the company during the time specified in this agreement, under penalty of forfeit of salary and all the additional favors herein mentioned; all this for and in consideration of the sum of seven hundred and fifty livres, old Quebec currency, together with his board and lodging as furnished in that locality; also, as the said Gabriel Hunot owes a certain amount on his former equipment, in order to give him the means of paying this sum, the company stipulates further, that in case the peltry returns of the said Gabriel Hunot, with the good merchandise only that will be left unsold, if these on July 1, 1788, amount to a greater sum than the merchandise and other things that were advanced to him for trading, together with any money given to him, the wages of his men, and briefly, all other expenses which affect the company through his action, then the profit or surplus will be applied on his old debt to the company for former equipment, and the said Gabriel Hunot will himself know whether he is making anything or not by the itemized accounts of all things sent to him by the company for purposes of trade in their behalf, with the expenses, in this way conditions will be the same as if the company had equipped him.

In the presence of witness,
Thomas Smith

For the Miamis Company
John Askin, Director,

his
Gabriel X Hunot
customary mark

The above approved by the directors of the Miamis Co.

T. Smith

Endorsed: Agreement made and passed at Detroit between the Miamis Company and Gabriel Hunot, trader at Huron River. Detroit, Sept. 13, 1787. In duplicate.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR GABRIEL HUNOT

INSTRUCTION pour Mons^r Gabriel Hunot Traiteur pour La Societé des Miamis à la Riviere au Huron le 13 de Septembre 1787. Sçavoir—

Que Mons^r Hunot ayent presentment tout ce que la Societé juge necessaire pour sa Commerce—part le plutot que pourra, que dans la route il ayer soin du Butin non seulement de la conserver contra la Pluie et toute autre dommage mais aussi qu'il le fasse decharge la nuit dans les Endroit qui croyer risquable et ou il ne decharge pas il faut que les Homme Couchant dans la Voiteur pour le conserver contre les Volleur comme d'etre Amené par les Vents.

Arrive à l'endroit de Traitte il sera necessaire de expliquer au Sauvage la rarité des Marchandisses et que ce qu'il emporte est tout ce qu'on envoira dans cette Endroit cette Année cela peut les empecher de demander à Credit, il faut en faire le moins que sera possible le tout pas à passer Cent plus en Castor et cela doit etre pour l'ammunition, Haches, Pieges et rien autre chose pour ainsi dire et pour ces Credit—*La il faut avoir des Gages.*

Le prix que vous prenez dans la Traitte est bon, la valeur de 26 Chellins pour un Couverte que vous Coute onze est un jollie profit en faison de meme avec les autre articles vous ne pourrez pas manquer de bien faire—au sujet des mauvaise Peltrie nous n'avons rien à vous dire comme vous nous avez toujours aporter que des bon, en quoi vous avez raison, car nous ne receverons point de mauvaise en tout a quelque prix que ce soit.

Vous profiterez de chaque occasion pour nous Ecrire en marqiant La quantité de Peltrie que vous aurez alors et vos esperances pour La Traitte. Tacher de ne pas vous désassortir comme nous ne pourrout pas vous fournir ni personne les articles que vous manquerez un assortiment deux fois per Année est tout ce que nous pourrons faire.

Vous aurez grande soin de feux, vous sçavez qu'on a faite des grands pertes par un peu de negligences, nous craignons rien de vous, mais les Homme sont souvant mal soignee si le maitre ni a pas l'eoil sur eux.

Pour La Compa[g]nie de Miamis

John Askin Directeur

Endorsed: Instructions pour Mons^r Ga Hunot à la Riviere au Huron. Detroit 13 Sept^r 1787.

Translation

INSTRUCTIONS for Gabriel Hunot, trader for the Miamis Company at the River Huron, September 13, 1787. That is to say:

Mr. Hunot having now all that the company considers necessary for trade, will set out as soon as possible and on the way will have a care that the merchandise is not only protected from rain and other damage, but he will see that it is unloaded at night in any place he thinks may involve risk, or if not unloaded he should have the men sleep in the boat to avoid loss by theft or from being blown away by the wind.

Arrived at the place of trade, it will be necessary to be plain to the Indians that goods are scarce and that what he has brought is all that will be sent this year to that place. This will prevent their asking for credit, and in any case he will grant the least possible and not to exceed the value of one hundred beavers, and that only for ammunition, axes, traps, and such like, so to speak, and for these credits he must take something as security.

Your prices for trade are good. The value of 26 shillings for a cover which cost you 11 is a nice profit, and the same

JOHN ASKIN PAPERS

with other articles. You cannot fail to do well. Bad peltries we have no occasion to speak to you about as you never brought in any but good, and you are right in this for we will not receive bad skins at all at any price.

You will profit by any opportunity to write to us, telling us the quantity of peltries you have on hand and your expectations respecting trade. Try not to weaken your assortment in any particular as we cannot furnish you nor anyone with the articles that may be lacking in an assortment of goods. Twice a year is all that we can do.

Be very careful of fire, for you know what great losses have resulted from a slight negligence, not that we fear for you personally but the men are often careless when the master's eye is not over them.

For the Miamis Company
John Askin, Director

Endorsed: Instructions for Mr. Gabriel Hunot at River Huron Detroit September 13, 1787.

DEBTS OF ADHÉMAR ST. MARTIN

Adhemar voulant faire des payements a ces Créanciers de sorte de ne point Causer de jalosé a aucuns d'eux et voulant savoir Leur sentiment a cet Egard ils se sont assemblés a cet Effet et sont accordé entre Eux que M^r adhemar peut faire un abandon de sa maison dans Le fort du Detroit a M^r William Macomb, et M^r frazer faisant pour M^r Samuel Judah; que ces Livres et Comptes qu'il a dans Le Detroit soit remis a M^r John Askin pour en tirer ce qu'il pourra avec toute Les Marchandises qui Luy restoit. En juin mil sept cens quatre vingt six ou quil a reçu depuis ou Leurs produits; et a L'Egard des Dettes restant dans Les pais sauvages que chacun des dittes Dettes que adhemar retirera seront Envoyé a celui qu'il Croira être veritablement Le produit de ses Effet. Detroit Le 22^e 7^{bre} 1787.

G^{llme} Monforton
Not P témoin

Adhemar Stmartin
Alex & W^m Macomb
Ja^s Fraser acting by Virtue

of a power of Attorney for
Edw^d W^m Gray for account
of Samuel Judah
John Askin

Translation

Adhémar, wishing to make payments to his creditors in a way that will not cause jealousy of feeling among any of them, and with the desire of hearing their sentiments in this respect, they have assembled for that purpose and mutually agreed that Mr. Adémar may assign his house in the fort at Detroit to Mr. William Macomb, and to Mr. Fraser,¹⁶ attorney for Mr. Samuel Judah;¹⁷ that the books and

¹⁶ James Fraser was in Detroit in 1787 and for many years thereafter. He was engaged in trade and seems also to have essayed at times the rôle of attorney. Entries in the Prerogative Court Records of the District of Hesse indicate that he was a man of considerable local prominence. His integrity was several times called in question, whether justly or no we have no means of determining. A case in point concerns the tangled affairs of Thomas Williams and Company (the "company" being John Casety). After the decease of the two principals in the company, Alexander Henry of Montreal, acting on behalf of the principal creditors, secured his own appointment as administrator of the property, and appointed Fraser his attorney to represent him on the ground. Fraser subsequently procured from Judge Powell the appointment of curator of the estate of John Casety with intent, according to Henry, to defraud the other creditors.

In 1796 Fraser formally signified his intention of remaining a British subject, but it would seem from documents in the Burton Hist. Coll. that he continued to reside at Detroit. Some years later his wife became deranged, and having attempted to burn the house of one of the McIntoshes was compelled to leave Detroit. Fraser divorced her and was required, in this connection, to make periodical payments to James Henry on her behalf, which he did over a considerable period of years. Information adapted from mss. in Burton Hist. Coll.

¹⁷ Samuel Judah came from London to Canada in 1760 with the English army. He settled at Three Rivers and subsequently at Montreal. He was a man of extensive means and was largely interested in the fur trade. Prior to the Revolution he removed to New York City. He favored the colonists in the Revolution and furnished money for the cause which was never repaid, in consequence of which he was ruined financially. He died in 1789. On Aug. 26 of this year Judge Powell at Detroit appointed James Fraser curator of Judah's property. See Prerogative Court Records, District of Hesse, 1789-91, photostat copy in Burton Hist. Coll. Since Judah lived and died in New York it may be presumed that this appointment had application only to his property and business affairs in the upper country. A grandson of Judah, also named Samuel, located at Vincennes in 1819 and died there in 1869. He was a graduate of Rutgers College and a lawyer by profession. He was one of the leading lawyers of Indiana in his time, and also took an active part in state politics, being chairman of the first Whig convention of the state, and speaker of the House of Representatives. He had three sons, one of whom, Noble B. Judah, was long a prominent attorney of Chicago. The other brothers, John M. Judah and Samuel B. Judah, reside respectively at Indianapolis and Vincennes. From information supplied by the latter (letter of June 8, 1925) the present note has been chiefly compiled.

JOHN ASKIN PAPERS

accounts that are at Detroit may be turned over to Mr. John Askin to collect what he can together with all the goods on hand in June, 1786, and either what has been received since or its product; with respect to the outstanding debts in the Indian country, Mr. Adhémar will send his collections there to that one whom he believes really furnished him with the goods so sold. Detroit, September 22, 1787.

William Monforton,
Not. Pub., Witness.

Adhémar St. Martin
Alexander & William Macomb
James Fraser, acting by virtue
of a power of Attorney for Ed-
ward William Gray, for account
of Samuel Judah
John Askin

APPEAL TO SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF
CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE

To

President of the Society for the Propagation of Christian Knowledge in foreign Parts &c &c

The Rev^d George Mitchell having come to this Place in the Month of November 1786 in Consequence of an Invitation by Letters from Alexander M^cKee Esq^r¹⁸ Superintendent of the Indian Department here, and at the Request of some of the principal Inhabitants of this Place, as a Clergy-

¹⁸ Alexander McKee was a native of Pennsylvania who engaged in the Indian trade and in 1772 was appointed deputy agent of Indian Affairs at Fort Pitt. When the Revolution came on McKee sympathized with the British government. In 1777 he was imprisoned by General Hand. Being released on parole, he fled to Detroit in the spring of 1778, in company with Simon Girty and Matthew Elliot. In the same year he was appointed captain in the British Indian Department, and before long was given the rank of deputy agent, and subsequently became superintendent of Indian Affairs at Detroit. In 1789 he was made a member of the Land Board of the District of Hesse. McKee was an inveterate foe of the Americans and had much to do with inciting the Indians to war against them. The Battle of Fallen Timbers in August, 1794, was fought in the immediate vicinity of his trading establishment on the Maumee, and at its conclusion Wayne proceeded to raze his property. The day before the battle McKee, intending to participate in it, made his will. A copy of this will is now in the Burton Hist. Coll. McKee removed to River Thames upon the American occupation of Detroit, and died there of lockjaw on January 13, 1799. See Riddell, *Life of William Dummer Powell*, 163; Thwaites and Kellogg, *Revolution on Upper Ohio*, 74-75; *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*; and mss. in Burton Hist. Coll., *passim*.

man of the Church of England, and with some Expectations from Government besides the Voluntary Subscriptions of the Inhabitants, has continued here for upwards of Eighteen Months, viz until the 1st of June last, and has regularly and punctually discharged his duty as a Clergyman during the aforesaid Period. But the English Inhabitants of this Place being but few in Number, and from the State of the Indian Commerce at present, being much upon the decline, find themselves unable to support a Resident Clergyman here, without some Assistance from the Society, or some Appointment from Government for that Purpose. We would still be very desirous according to our Abilities to contribute if the Society of which your Grace is President shall think proper to grant him an Appointment for this Place, or to any other Clergyman of Character and Abilities whom the Society may think proper to appoint:

SUBSCRIPTION FOR SUPPORT OF REV. GEORGE MITCHELL

Detroit 1787

We the Subscribers do hereby Promise to pay unto the Reverend George Mitchell or his Order the Sums annexed to our Names respectively, for one years Attendance as Clergyman of this District, commencing December 1st 1786 in quarterly payments.

303

	£	S	d	£	S	d	£	S	d	£	S	d	£	S	d
William Macomb..... p Annum	£	20											£	20	
John Askin.....		10												10	
James Abbot ¹⁹		10												10	
William Harffy ²⁰		6	8											6	8
John Martin Sen ^r		6	8											6	8
George Meldrum.....		6	8											6	8
John Casety.....		6	8											6	8
John M ^o Pherson.....		4												4	
George Lyons.....		5								4				5	
John Dodomead ²¹		5												5	
Thomas Dugan.....		4												4	
Jonathan Shiefflien.....		4												4	
William M ^o Niell.....		4												4	
James Douglass.....		4												4	
John Urquhart.....		4												4	
Thomas M ^o Crea ²²		4												4	
William Scott ²³		4												4	
Thomas Smith.....		4												4	
James Donalson ²⁴		4								2				4	
John Welsh.....		3												3	
Nathan Williams.....		5											£	5	
Lieth and Shepherd.....		10												10	
William Park.....		5												5	
Danl McKillip ²⁵		4												4	
Martin Theophilus Myers ²⁶		2												2	
Joseph Forsyth.....		5												5	
Alexander Harrow ²⁷		10												10	
John Laughton.....		5												5	
James Fraser.....		3	4											3	4
David White.....		3	4											3	4
Alexander McKenzie ²⁸		3	4							2	14			3	4
Thomas Smith.....		2												2	
Peter Cumming ²⁹		2	10											2	10
Angus Mackintosh..... paid		3	4											3	4
John Kinzei ³⁰		3												3	
W ^m Groesbeck ³¹		3											W ^m	Gr	oesbec
Sharp & Wallace..... paid		6												k	[6]
Thomas Jones.....		3												3	
Robert Stevens ³² pd		2												2	
William Forsith ³³ pd		6												6	
J ⁿ ° Wheaton.....		3												3	
James Allan ³⁴ Paid		3	4											3	4
Geo° Jacob ³⁵		3	4											3	4
John Urquhart.....		3	4											3	4
James May ³⁶		3	4											3	4
Alex ^r Saunders ³⁷		3	4											3	4
William S ^t Clair..... pd		3	4											3	4
Henry Ford ³⁸ pd		3	4											3	4
Thomas Reynalds ³⁹ £2..... pd		2												2	
Matt ^w Dolson..... p ^r Order		3	4											3	4
Tho ^s Cox..... pd £1.15.....		2	10											2	10
M ^r Phegan..... pd £2.....		2												2	
William Bruce.....		1	10											1	10
Rob ^t Gouie ⁴⁰		1	12											1	12
Rob ^t Dowler.....		1	14											1	14
M ^o Alpin.....		3	10											3	10
M ^o Cormick..... p ^r Order		3												3	
English Inhabitants who have never been applied to or have not subscribed to the maintenance of a Minister.															
Commodore Grant															
Cap ^t M ^o Kee															
Major M ^o Greggor..... pd		5												5	
Cap ^t Caldwell															
Cap ^t Elliot															
M ^r Sparkman ⁴¹															
M ^r Cornwall															
M ^r Cook															
Isaac Dolson															
James M ^o Intosh ⁴²															
M ^r Hand ⁴³															
M ^r Geo. Forsyth ⁴⁴															
M ^r Christie															
M ^r Girty ⁴⁵															
Cap ^t Anderson															
M ^r Lyttle ⁴⁶															
M ^r Harsen ⁴⁷															
M ^r Graverod ⁴⁸															
Collections for the last half year beginning Dec ^r 1 st 1777 [1787] and ending June 1 st 1788															
Doctor Harffy.....		2												2	
M ^r Frazer..... pd			16												16
M ^r M ^o Intosh..... pd		1												1	

JOHN ASKIN PAPERS

BURTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

19 James Abbott was one of the early English merchants of Detroit. In 1778 Governor Hamilton confiscated his goods for a violation of orders with respect to the conduct of the Indian trade. Two years later Abbott was the recipient of extensive grants of land fronting the Detroit River and Lake St. Clair made by the Potawatomi and Chippewa tribes. He died prior to July 25, 1800, leaving to his widow and offspring much property. Abbott was the father of six children, born between the years 1770 and 1777. Three of them were sons—Robert, James, and Samuel—and all were prominent men in their generation. The marriage connections established by all six children served further to enhance the family influence. Mary Abbott married William Hands, who became sheriff and registrar of Essex, Kent, and Lambton; Frances and Elizabeth married, respectively, François and James Baby of Detroit and (subsequently) Sandwich; Robert Abbott married Elizabeth, daughter of Peter Audrain; James married Sarah Whistler, daughter of Captain John Whistler and sister of Colonel William Whistler of the U. S. army; Samuel married a Miss St. Croix of St. Louis and spent most of his life at Mackinac. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*, and genealogical notes on the Abbott family compiled by C. M. Burton, ms. in Burton Hist. Coll.

20 William Harffy was a frequent correspondent of John Askin and many of his letters are preserved among the Askin Papers. He was sent to Detroit from Lower Canada as hospital mate in the spring of 1781. In 1786 he succeeded Dr. George Anthon as surgeon of the garrison. He was subsequently garrison surgeon at Amherstburg, where he died shortly prior to June 2, 1802. He was a whimsical, lovable soul, impractical in temperament and delightful in conversation. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XIX, 620, XX, 686, and Askin Papers in Burton Hist. Coll., *passim*.

21 John Dodemead was one of the earliest English residents of Detroit, having come here about the time the British took possession of the place. On December 1, 1780, he married Jane Murray and to them ten children were born. At the time of the fire in 1805, Dodemead was one of the most prosperous citizens of Detroit, but he sustained heavy losses in the fire, from which he never recovered. He shortly afterward built a hotel at the intersection of modern Shelby Street and Jefferson Avenue, which he conducted until his death in 1812, and which his wife continued to run thereafter. If family tradition be authentic, the flag of truce run up by General Hull in 1812, was a tablecloth snatched from Mrs. Dodemead's establishment. Dodemead held various public offices in the earlier years of the American régime. One of his daughters married Charles Jouett, early Indian agent at Chicago; another married Captain Samuel Dyson of the U. S. army, who at one time commanded the garrison at Detroit; the youngest daughter became the wife of Jacob Varnum, U. S. factor at Sandusky and (subsequently) Chicago. The five sons of Dodemead all died without issue. Information adapted from *Proc. of the Land Board of Detroit*, 187-89, and mss. in Burton Hist. Coll.

22 Thomas McCrae was a tailor by trade. His name appears on the census roll of Detroit in 1779 and again in 1782. Certain accounts of his published in Vol. VIII of the *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, indicate that he continued to live here for a number of years. In 1791 he is listed among the loyalists at Detroit making application for a grant of land. Apparently he removed to the Canadian shore, for in 1813 his name appears as one of the signers of a memorial to Sir George Prevost urging reasons for the retention of a large garrison of regular troops at Amherstburg. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XV, 252 and XXIV, 178.

23 William Scott is listed in the Detroit census of 1782 as a married man with a considerable domestic establishment. In 1791 his name occurs in the list of loyalists at Detroit applying for grants of land, with the description of "Sergeant in Detroit Volunteers," and the further characterization of "now a tavern keeper in Detroit." Along with other discharged loyalists he was granted a lot of land at New Settlement on Lake Erie by the Land Board of the District of Hesse. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim* and Essex Hist. Soc., *Papers and Addresses*, III, 71.

24 One James Donaldson, a sergeant in the Eighth Regiment, was stationed at Mackinac in the years 1780-82. *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, X, 459, 637 and XXIV, 177. In 1795 Askin sold his negro slave, Pompey, to "James Donalson" of Detroit, and "James Donaldson" was one of those Detroiters who, on the advent of the Americans, announced their intention to remain British subjects. *Ibid.*, I, 417 and VIII, 411. Although positive evidence is wanting, we surmise that the individual mentioned in these several documents was identical with the signer of the church subscription here noted. When Mary Moore and Martha Evans, prisoners among the Indians, were brought into Detroit and sold by their captors in 1788, the latter found a refuge and kind treatment in the family of James Donaldson. See *Burton Hist. Coll. Leaflet*, Vol. V, 72. A claim preferred by Donaldson against the estate of John Askwith in 1795 indicates that at that date he was an innkeeper. He died prior to Sept. 1, 1802, when his estate was in process of administration. Numerous descendants still live in Detroit.

25 Daniel McKillip was a sergeant in Butler's Rangers during the Revolution. At or prior to its close he came to Detroit where he engaged in business, being for a time in partnership with George Jacob. Another loyalist who found refuge at Detroit during the Revolution was John Little of western Pennsylvania. As soon as peace was declared he returned to Pittsburgh for his family, bringing them to Detroit about the year 1784. Little had a daughter, Eleanor, who had been taken captive by the Seneca Indians during one of their raids and had spent several years of her childhood among them. Some years after coming to Detroit, she became the wife of McKillip, who at some time prior to 1791 located at New Settlement. Here he was living in 1794 when, in response to the call of the British authorities, he led a company of Essex County militia to the Maumee to assist the British regular force from Detroit in opposing the advance of General Wayne. Although the British officially held aloof from the contest between Wayne and the Indians, many of the militia, led by Captain Caldwell, fought in the Indian ranks in the Battle of Fallen Timbers and several of them, McKillip among the number, were slain by the victorious Americans. Mrs. McKillip subsequently married John Kinzie for whom see *post*, 306. Besides his widow, McKillip left an infant daughter, Margaret, who in 1810 married Lieut. Linai T. Helm of the U. S. army. In 1829 she divorced him and subsequently married Dr. Lucius Abbott of Detroit. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*; M. M. Quaife, *Chicago and the Old Northwest, 1673-1835, passim*; C. M. Burton, *Little genealogy*, ms. in *Burton Hist. Coll.*; *Life and Letters of Richard Cartwright* (Toronto, 1876), 63; *Correspondence of Lieut. John Graves Simcoe . . .* (Toronto, 1923-26), II, 227, 414. (This will be cited henceforth as *Simcoe Papers*.)

26 Martin Theophilus Myers later removed to Malden, where he was living as late as 1800, at which time his wife was acting as a servant to Doctor Harffy. See *Askin Papers* (mss.), *passim*.

27 Alexander Harrow was born at Newburgh, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, in 1755. The opening of the Revolution found him in Canada where, being familiar with shipping from youth, he entered the naval department and served as lieutenant of a company of seamen in the defense of Quebec during the winter of 1775-76. In the spring of 1777 he came to the upper lakes as lieutenant in the naval service, returning to Quebec in the autumn. On July 7, 1779, he was made lieutenant and commander in the naval establishment of the upper lakes, in which he served for many years, being commander for a number of years of the sloop *Welcome*. The log book of the *Welcome*, kept by him for several of these years, is now preserved in the *Burton Hist. Coll.* In August, 1794, Harrow witnessed, as an observer, the Battle of Fallen Timbers, having charge with a group of his sailors, of two cannon in the British Fort Miamis, near which the battle was fought. Shortly after this Harrow acquired an extensive tract of land on the American shore of St. Clair River, having a frontage of two and one-half miles and a depth almost three times as great. Here he settled and proceeded to develop an estate. Although the American government subsequently refused to validate his title to much of this land, he retained a portion of it and lived on it until his death in January, 1811. Some of his descendants still reside on it.

BURTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

See biographical sketch by William L. Jenks, published in *Algonac Courier*, Aug. 1, 1924.

28 One Alexander McKenzie was an employee of the British Indian Department in the Northwest in 1795 and subsequent years. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*. In 1791 Alexander McKenzie, "Merchant," was occupant of a house in Detroit and on the roll of Askin's militia company, and in 1795 the same individual, apparently, was still a merchant here. See Askin Papers, *passim*.

29 Peter Cumming is listed by Governor Hay among the loyalists at Detroit in 1784. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XIII, 77.

30 John Kinzie was the son of the wife of William Forsyth of Detroit by a prior marriage. He has acquired posthumous repute as the "father" of modern Chicago, and much has been written about him. Despite this, the facts concerning his earlier years are obscure. He is said, by family descendants, to have been born at Quebec in 1763, and to have spent a portion of his boyhood in New York City. However this may be, he spent the years of his later youth at Detroit, probably because of his mother's marriage to Forsyth. He early engaged in the Indian trade, and this calling he followed practically to the end of life. This necessitated his absence from Detroit, but he maintained property and business connections here at least until after the War of 1812. As a trader he was established at different times at Sandusky, Fort Wayne, on the site of Defiance, Ohio, at Parc au Vache near Niles, Michigan, and at Chicago. Until 1796 his affiliations were wholly British. During his years at Parc au Vache and Chicago, where he located in 1804, however, economic and other interests gradually inclined him to the American side until, by the outbreak of the War of 1812, he seems to have regarded himself as a full-fledged American. Such a transformation was not unusual on the northwestern frontier in this period, and would call for no notice here but for the industry which spokesmen of his family have displayed in misrepresenting the facts concerning it. Kinzie was a shrewd and enterprising trader, and he accumulated considerable wealth, but most of his property was lost in the War of 1812 and from this blow he never recovered. From 1804 until his death in 1828 he lived at Chicago, saving the years 1812 to 1816 when, with no garrison at Chicago, his family found refuge at Detroit. In 1798 Kinzie married Eleanor Mc-Killip, for whom see *ante*, 305. To them were born several children, one of whom (John H. Kinzie) married Juliette A. McGill, author of *Wau Bun*, a delightful semi-historical family narrative of life in the early Northwest. One daughter became the wife of Major General David Hunter of the U. S. army, while another married Alexander Wolcott, who was for a decade Indian agent at Chicago. Subsequent to his death in 1830, she married George C. Bates, a prominent lawyer of Detroit.

31 According to Denissen, William Groesbeck came from Albany to Detroit in 1788, and in 1792 married Therese Beaufait, daughter of Louis Beaufait and Mary Therese Marsac. Other evidence seems to indicate that Groesbeck was in Detroit at a date considerably earlier than this. The census of 1779 lists Groesbeck and Teller, and there are other indications that either William or another of the same name was trading at Detroit in this period. When Robert Rogers was serving as Governor of Mackinac and its dependencies (1766-67), one Groesbeck was accused of complicity in his reputed illegal designs. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, X, 225. The fact that Rogers had been engaged in business at Albany, and the further fact that William Groesbeck is known to have come from that place, seem to indicate a relationship between him and the one of the same name who was Rogers' associate in 1767.

32 For information concerning Robert Stevens' relatives see *post*, 411-12. His father, therein mentioned, lived at Glasgow, where he died in April, 1793, leaving several children. A long letter from the executors of the estate to Robert is preserved among the Askin Papers in the Dominion Archives in Ottawa. In it the name is repeatedly spelled without the final "s." Signatures of Robert, preserved in the Burton Hist. Coll., however, disclose that he spelled his name with the final "s." In 1793 Stevens was at the Maumee Rapids, apparently assisting in some capacity in the operations of the British Indian Department in that quarter. See *post*, 481. Stevens was living in April, 1798, as indicated by an entry in an account of Askin's of that date; an un-

JOHN ASKIN PAPERS

dated memorandum in the Burton Hist. Coll., which probably belongs to the early nineteenth century, pertains to proof of the death and handwriting of the "late Robert Stevens."

33 William Forsyth is said to have been a native of Aberdeen, Scotland, who came to Canada as a British officer in 1760. He subsequently married a widow, Mrs. McKenzie, and located in Detroit, where he lived until his death. For many years he kept a tavern here. Forsyth had six sons, several of whom achieved considerable prominence. There is much confusion, in the various family accounts, concerning Forsyth's career, but from legal records it is certain that he was in Detroit as early as 1778 and was living here as late as Feb. 28, 1794. His tavern was sold by his sons in September, 1796, to George Sharp, who in 1798 sold it to John Kinzie, their half-brother.

Mrs. Ann Forsyth had been twice married before her union with Forsyth: first, to William Haliburton, a chaplain in the British army, and second to John McKenzie. A daughter by the first marriage, Alice Haliburton, born Jan. 22, 1758, married Sampson Fleming at Detroit. They moved to New York after the Revolution, where Mrs. Fleming married (second) Nicholas Low. The child of Mrs. Forsyth's second marriage was a son, John, who early in his career shortened his name to the form Kenzie or Kinzie; for his career see *ante*, 306. Information adapted from genealogical notes on the Forsyth, Kinzie, and Little families compiled by C. M. Burton, ms. in Burton Hist. Coll.

34 James Allan was a member of the British naval establishment at Detroit in 1783. Ten years later he petitioned for a grant of land on the east side of La Pêche River. It was granted, and in 1799 Allan, then at Amherstburg, proposed to transfer 12,000 acres on Peach River to William Robertson, in payment of debts due the latter. He was living in Upper Canada as a British subject as late as 1815, when his evidence was quoted by the British authorities in a dispute over the retention by the United States of Bois Blanc Island. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*; letter of Allan to Robertson, Sept. 2, 1799, in Burton Hist. Coll.

35 George Jacob was a partner in trade of Daniel McKillip. Jacob remained a British subject and during the War of 1812 was captain of a dragoon company of Kent County militia. About the year 1788 he married Mary Archange Chêne *dit* Labutte. They had several children born and baptized at Sandwich in the years 1789-99, and a daughter, Felicity, baptized at the River Thames, Feb. 6, 1801. She later became the wife of Alexander McKee, son of Thomas McKee and Therese Askin. George Jacob died Dec. 24, 1833, aged seventy-one years, and was buried in St. John's churchyard, Sandwich. See Denissen, *op. cit.*, *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*, and burial inscriptions in St. John's churchyard.

36 James May was a native of Birmingham, England, who at the age of twenty-two came to Detroit in 1778. He was a man of energy and ability, and held various positions of public trust. He was the first chief justice of the Court of Common Pleas, justice of the peace, marshal of Michigan Territory, and colonel of territorial militia. He married (first) Rose St. Cosme, daughter of Pierre Laurence St. Cosme and Catherine Lootman *dit* Barrois. She was buried at Detroit, July 18, 1797, and May married (second) Margaret Descomps *dit* Labadie. Three daughters were born of the first union and ten sons and daughters of the second. James May died at Detroit, Jan. 19, 1829. See Denissen, *op. cit.*, and sketch in *Proc. of Land Board of Detroit*, 205.

37 Alexander Saunders was engaged in trade at Mackinac as early as 1780 when he signed a petition to General Haldimand praying for equal treatment in the matter of shipping privileges on the lakes. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XX, 210.

38 Henry Ford was a commander in the British naval establishment on the upper lakes in the post-Revolutionary period. On May 20, 1793, he sold to David Cowan a tract of land, four acres by fifty, on the south side of Detroit River opposite Bois Blanc Island for the sum of \$100. Information adapted from *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XII,

BURTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

25 and XXIV, 6, and from ms. deed in possession of J. D. Anderson of Detroit, a descendant of Cowan.

39 Thomas Reynolds was assistant commissary at Detroit from about the year 1780 until the end of the British régime, after which he served in the same capacity for the garrison at Amherstburg. Many documents pertaining to him are printed in the *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, and many are found among the Askin Papers.

40 Robert Gouie, after living some years in Detroit, removed to Sandwich. He was engaged in the Indian trade. He belonged to Major Baby's militia company in 1805, and to Captain Pierre Labutte's company in 1812. See sketch in *Proc. of the Land Board of Detroit*, 222. In a document of 1795 Gouie is described as a "Taylor." See *post*, 596.

41 John Sparkman was barrack master at Detroit from 1784 or earlier to the end of the British period, and thereafter barrack master at Amherstburg at least until 1807. He was a widower with two sons, both of whom died young. He married (second) Suzanna Stedman, a niece of John Stedman of Niagara, and five children were born to them. Condensed from *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*, and information supplied by Mrs. Shirley Beecher Ball of Dorset, Ontario.

42 James McIntosh was a brother of Angus McIntosh, for whom see *ante*, 293, and of William McIntosh. He acted as attorney for William Macomb in 1794 in connection with the transfer of title to Hog Island (modern Belle Isle), and in the contemporary document he is characterized as "James McIntosh gentleman." See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, II, 588. On the American occupation of Detroit he signified his intention of remaining a British subject. *Ibid.*, VIII, 410.

43 William Hands was born at Bethnal Green near London, Aug. 10, 1756. He came to America and was engaged in trade at Detroit as early as 1781. At the close of the British régime he signified his intention of remaining a British subject, and in 1799 built a house at Sandwich which was still in use a few years since. He held many local offices at Sandwich, being sheriff, treasurer, postmaster, customs officer, and register of Surrogate Court for the Western District. Most of these offices were held simultaneously. He married Mary Abbott of Detroit, daughter of James Abbott Sr. He died at Sandwich, Feb. 20, 1836. Mary Abbott died at Sandwich, Dec. 22, 1860. Information adapted from mss. in Burton Hist. Coll. and burial inscriptions in Hands's family plot in St. John's churchyard, Sandwich.

44 Apparently there were two persons bearing this name, and we are unable to distinguish them in the contemporary documents. On February 4, 1779, Alexander Macomb wrote from Detroit to Governor Henry Hamilton at Vincennes enclosing a letter received by "a young lad here named George Forsyth, nephew to Captain George Phyn." *Ill. Hist. Colls.*, VIII, 107. Probably this was not the same George Forsyth who, in 1781 and 1785, signed petitions to government officials as a merchant of Detroit. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, X, 456, and XI, 461. The latter, apparently, later located at Niagara where he died Sept. 15, 1806. His tombstone inscription, which may still be seen, gives his age as fifty-two, and describes him as long a resident of Niagara as merchant and magistrate, and "beloved for his mild manner and great worth"; Niagara Hist. Soc., *Pubs.*, No. 19, p. 14. On Aug. 6, 1804, Alexander Grant wrote to John Askin that George Forsyth had married at Robert Hamilton's home Miss Tenbrook. Ms. in Burton Hist. Coll.

45 Simon Girty was born in Pennsylvania in 1741. At the age of fifteen he was captured by the Seneca and lived among them as a prisoner for three years. He subsequently acted as an interpreter, and in this capacity served in Lord Dunmore's campaign. Loyalist in his sympathies, Girty in the spring of 1778 accompanied Alexander McKee and Matthew Elliot on their flight from Pittsburgh to Detroit. Girty, like Elliot and McKee, became a notable leader of the Indians in the Northwest in their warfare with the Americans. For some reason Simon Girty was regarded by the

JOHN ASKIN PAPERS

SUBSCRIPTION FOR EPISCOPAL CLERGYMAN

Whereas the time of Attendance of the Rev^d George Mitchell as Clergyman at this Place, for last year is now fully expired. We the Subscribers do hereby Promise to pay or Cause to be paid unto the said George Mitchell or unto some Person appointed to Collect the same, the Sums annexed to our Names respectively for Six months Attendance only to Commence Dec^r 1st 1787 and to end June 1st 1788. To which Payments we bind ourselves our Heirs Executors or Administrators. Witness our Hands.

Americans with greater detestation than any other of their foes, and he seems to have returned their feeling in full measure. In the summer of 1784, Girty married Catherine Malott, who had been living for several years as a captive of the Delaware tribe in Ohio, and established a home a short distance below Amherstburg. For a decade longer he continued to lead, or encourage, the western Indians in their warfare with the Americans, but this phase of his career was definitely closed by Wayne's victory at Fallen Timbers and the peace which followed it. Save for a considerable period of exile during the War of 1812, when the Americans were in control of Amherstburg, Girty continued to reside here until his death, Feb. 18, 1818. For an exhaustive account of his career see Consul W. Butterfield, *History of the Girtys* . . . (Cincinnati, 1890).

46 John Little was a native of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, to which place his father had migrated from Ireland about the year 1730. About the opening of the Revolution, John Little removed to the vicinity of Pittsburgh. His loyalist activities in that struggle caused him later to seek refuge at Detroit. On receipt of news of peace at that place Little returned to Pittsburgh for his family, where, notwithstanding a letter of "protection" from the commandant at Detroit which he had taken the precaution to procure, he was seized by General Irvine and threatened with hanging. Released, he brought his family to Detroit, where he procured a farm on Lake St. Clair in the Grosse Pointe region, and lived until the end of his life, although both in 1795 and in 1797 he formally avowed his intention of remaining a British subject. He was buried Aug. 24, 1817. One of his daughters, Eleanor Little, married (first) Daniel McKillip and (second) John Kinzie, whose careers are noted elsewhere in this volume. Information adapted from notes by C. M. Burton on the Little, Forsyth, and Kinzie families, ms. in Burton Hist. Coll.

47 Jacob Harsen (Harson) was living in Detroit as early as 1779 and as late as 1797. He subsequently settled on Harsen's Island in the St. Clair River. He reared a family of five sons and two daughters; one son was later sheriff of St. Clair County. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*, and William L. Jenks, *St. Clair County Michigan* (Chicago, 1912), *passim*.

48 Gerrit Graverat came from Albany to Detroit some time prior to July, 1773. Here he engaged in trade in partnership with John Visger and subsequently with Visger and Colin Andrews under the firm name of Andrews, Graverat, and Visger. A somewhat notable case of debt collection against Graverat in 1783 is described by C. M. Burton, *City of Detroit, Michigan, 1701-1922*, II, 957-58. Information adapted from *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*, and manuscripts in Burton Hist. Coll., *passim*.

BURTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

FROM REV. GEORGE MITCHELL TO CHURCH VESTRYMEN,
DEC. 8, 1787

To William M^cComb Esq^r and Mess^{rs} John Askin James Abbot and George Meldrum.

Gentlemen At a meeting of the Inhabitants of this Place held at the Council House upon the 1st day of June last, by the Subscription Paper which I proposed, and which was then read, I mentioned your Names as the Gentlemen whom I wished to act as Vestrymen, and superintend the Business of the Congregation. We have not been able to bring Church Matters to that Order and regularity which I could have wished. Various Causes have no doubt contributed to prevent it. The necessary Avocations of Business both public and private, the Uncertainty which still remains respecting this Post, and other Circumstances render the Situation of a resident Clergyman here very precarious and his Subsistence uncertain. If any thing has been wanting on my Part, it is from you that I should receive Information. I conceive that the taking Subscriptions and collecting money does not properly fall to my Part, but should rather be done by some one appointed by you, or whatever method you should think most adviseable. I have taken the Liberty to inclose you the Subscription List for last year, and the Ballances due as nearly as I can make them out at present.

There are several of the English Inhabitants about the Fort who I believe would have subscribed but have never been applied to, whether you think proper to make any Application still to such, I submit to your Judgment. I am as you may conceive involved in some small debts particularly to M^r Robertson to whom I have been under particular Obligations, and to Serg^t Brown for Provisions, and a few others which I could wish to be able to discharge nearly as soon as possible.

As to any future Subscription, I propose none at present more than for Six months, as I propose to go down to Montreal, and from thence to Quebec, about the beginning of June next, or about the time that the first Shipping may

be expected from England. An Appointment from the Society, if the application has been forwarded & delivered, I have no doubt will take Place. That together with some appointment for the Garrison if it could be obtained, with some Subscription from the Inhabitants, might be very sufficient for the Support of a Clergyman to reside at this Place. Otherwise I do not see that the Inhabitants alone can support one without distressing themselves. I have likewise inclosed my Proposals for Six months in which you may do as you think proper. I have the Honour to be with Respect

Gentlemen your most Obed^t and very humble Servant
Detroit Dec^r 8th 1787 George Mitchell

Addressed: William M^cComb Esq^r & Mess^{rs} John Askin
James Abbot & George Meldrum Detroit

FROM REV. GEORGE MITCHELL TO CHURCH VESTRYMEN,
MAY 14, 1788

William M^cComb Esq^r & Mess^{rs} John Askin & George Meldrum

Gentlemen As I wish to lease [leave] this Place now as soon as possible, I must take the liberty to trouble you again to try what can be done in the way of Collection. A few Ballances still remain upon the Original List herewith Sent, and it is probable that some of them even now, may not have Cash. If I can get Credit with any of the Gentlemen with whom I have dealings in Town M^r Robertson, M^r Meldrum, or M^r Shepherd, it will answer my Purpose in that way as well as Money towards discharging my debts. I suppose most of the Original Subscribers will continue the same in proportion for the last half year as at first, but some are gone, and some others in no great way of making Money, who probably cannot afford it. But there are a considerable number of English Inhabitants who have never yet as far as I know, been applied to, some of whose names I have annexed, and from these something might be expected.

There are several of the Inhabitants with whom I have small Acco^{ts} for necessaries of which I have not the particulars, with any one who mentions this Circumstance I will settle myself. There should be some Allowance for the money I have advanced to the Drumers & I will discount that to the Band. I wish to be ready to go at farthest by the beginning of June ag^t which time the present half year will be fully expired, and your Endeavours to enable me to discharge my Acco^{ts} in Town and to raise some overplus for my Journey will much Oblige

Gentlemen your most obedient and very humble Servant
George Mitchell

Detroit May 14 1788

Addressed: William M^cComb Esq^r and Mess^{rs} John Askin & George Meldrum

FROM REV. GEORGE MITCHELL TO WILLIAM MACOMB

Quebec July 31st 1788

Dear Sir I take the Liberty to acquaint you from this Place that before I can get my business done regularly I must either go to London or Hallifax to wait upon the Bishop there, and probably to both. I had an Introduction to Head Quarters from Sir John Johnson⁴⁹ who seemed to be disposed to serve me, and assisted me with a little money. I had likewise an Introduction to Maj Beckwith⁵⁰ his Lord-

⁴⁹ Sir John Johnson was the son of the famous Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Sir William Johnson, and on the death of the latter in 1774, the son succeeded to his title and his immense estate on the Mohawk River. At the opening of the Revolution, General Schuyler led an army into the Mohawk Valley and exacted from Johnson and his friends pledges of neutrality. In the spring of 1776, however, Johnson went to Montreal and secured authority to raise a battalion of troops in the Mohawk country for the royal service. This was done, and in 1780 a second battalion was raised. Throughout the war Johnson was active in support of the British cause, and a powerful factor in the civil and Indian war which ensued along the New York frontier. At its conclusion he found refuge in Canada, where he was perhaps the foremost figure among the thousands of loyalists from the States who found in Canada an asylum at the close of the Revolution.

⁵⁰ George Beckwith, born in 1753, served throughout the Revolution as lieutenant, captain, and major in the Thirty-seventh Regiment. From 1787 to 1791, he was sent to the United States by Lord Dorchester on frequent missions of a diplomatic character, and resided many months at Philadelphia. He was adjutant general to

ships principal Aidducamp, but unfortunately he had left this to proceed with his Lordship to the Upper Country I believe as far as Niagara before I arrived, of course I had to send by [my] Papers by Major Mathews who you know had not formerly been my Friend, whether he was, or was not at this time I do not know, however he informed me that he read my Papers to his Lordship, and that his Lordship was sorry he had not time then to have some Conversation with myself, there being so many Gentlemen attending about business, that could not be deferred, which I believe was really the Case, it being the last day of his Lordships stay at this Place. I do not expect to stay here untill he returns but shall leave my business with his Secretary Mr Motts⁵¹ who I have reason to believe, at least I have his Promise that he will do what he can, when his Lordship returns, and what Recumendations he thinks proper to give will be forwarded to London.

I wrote you before that I had seen Mr Alexander Ellis [Ellice] at Montreal who took no more trouble about the Packet sent to his House last summer than to send it by a Porter to St James Square where the Bishop of London lives, and never enquired more about the matter. It was very unfriendly indeed, I think he might have done more for the Inhabitants of Detroit as he has had considerable Connections there, if he would not upon my Account. If you have received my Letter I wrote you from Montreal you will see, he even refused paying the Subscription of his Brother James Ellis untill he should hear from Detroit. I went to see Doct^r Toosey⁵² yesterday and mentioned the Matter to

the army in America from 1791 to 1794; promoted a major general in 1798, and lieutenant general in 1805. At different times he served as governor of St. Vincent, Barbadoes, and Bermuda. He led the expedition which conquered Martinique in 1809 and Guadaloupe in 1810. From 1816 to 1820 he served as commander-in-chief in Ireland. He died in 1823. See Ford, *British Officers in the American Revolution* and sketch in *Simcoe Papers*, I, 94.

⁵¹ Henry Motz was a native of Switzerland. He served as an officer in the Royal American Regiment, and for some years as civil secretary to the governor of Canada. He later became a member of the Legislative Council of Lower Canada. See *Simcoe Papers*, I, 25.

⁵² The story of the beginnings of the Protestant Episcopal Church at Detroit has

him, who is of Opinion that altho' it was Subscribed to him, and while he was there, it was not to him as a Man but as a Clergyman of the Place, and as he did not return and I did the duty was a debt of Honor which ought to be paid to me, altho not perhaps recoverable by Compulsion. If I remember right yourself and M^r Askin were of the same Opinion. If you will be kind enough to take the trouble I believe M^r Askin has the Original Paper, you can look at the Preamble which is short but I do not perfectly remember it, and can easily know if it was meant to Doct^r Toosey only, or to any other Clergyman who might do the duty. You know that I had been expected there before Doct^r Toosey came, and a few lines from yourself & M^r Askin or either, will easily settle the business, it may be directed to M^r Ellis or Tho^s Forsyth but Inclosed to M^r David Ross Attorney at Montreal whom I spoke to, not as a Lawyer but a Friend.

If I should live to get to London and take up the Application of last year, to the Bishop or the Society I am told it will be of service to have some thing of the Nature of the inclosed in Case it should be lost, or even to strengthen it, a few Names will be sufficient, and I will beg of you to take the trouble, it may come inclosed to me to be left at the Quebec Coffee house London and the sooner after this comes to hand the better. If I shall succeed in the Application I shall return in the Spring by the way of New York.

not, as yet, been written. The first clergyman at Detroit of whom we have found mention was Rev. Philip Toosey, who was here prior to George Mitchell in 1787. These early priests were apparently sent, and in large part supported by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. Prior to 1793 the church in all Canada was under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Nova Scotia. In that year the Bishop paid a visit to the "western" portion of his domain, coming as far west as Montreal. He set various things in order, and among other matters appointed Rev. Philip Toosey to minister to the people at Quebec. Probably this appointment merely gave legal confirmation to an existing fact, for it seems evident from Mitchell's letter that Toosey was at Quebec before this time. As one result of the Bishop's tour in 1789, representations were made to the British authorities which led to the division, four years later, of his vast jurisdiction and the establishment of the Bishopric of Quebec. Toosey died shortly before Oct. 4, 1797. See Adam Shortt and Arthur G. Doughty (eds.), *Canada and its Provinces* (Toronto, 1914), XI, *passim*; also, for specific references to Toosey see Ontario Bureau of Archives, *Thirteenth Report*, 166.

I must beg your pardon for all this trouble and have the Honor to be w^h Respect

D^r Sir your most Obed^t and very hum^e Serv^t

George Mitchell

William Macombe Esqr

Not to trouble you with my small affairs I have sent a Power of Attorney to Mess^{rs} Leith and Shepherd where I left my furniture. My Horse left upon the Island you may keep at what price you may think him worth yourself if the Indians have not made free with him. With my best Respects to M^{rs} Macombe wishing she may have recovered again the use of her Knee I am &c

George Mitchell

Addressed: William Macombe Esq^r Detroit

DISPUTE BETWEEN TREMBLAY HEIRS
OVER TITLE TO REAL ESTATE

LAN MILE SEPT CENT QUATRE VINGT HUIT et le Vingt et Cinq du Mois d'aoust, par devant le Notaire Soussigné, fut present le Sieur Joseph Cerré, dit S^t Jean, Maitre Tailleur d'Habits, Residant au Detroit; Le quel tant en Son Nom, qu au Noms des Heritiers Tramlé a déclaré, et par Les presentes declare, comme Nulle et de Nul Effet L'Adjudication qui fut faite a Lissue de La Messe Paroisealle; le Vingt et Quatre du Courant, a Lenstance du Sieur Jonathan Schieffelin, de La Terre de Pierre Champaigne au Grand Marais; et fait Inhibitions et defenses a L'adjudicataire de prendre Possession de la ditte Terre, a Moins que le dit Sieur Schieffelin ne paye les Droits que les dits Heritiers Tramble ont sur la dite Terre, pour leur part dans la Succession du feus leurs pere et Mere, Ce dont le dit Joseph Cerré a Requis Acte, et a lui octroyé et a Signé au Detroit le jour et An que dessus.

En presence de
F^s Pepin
Martin Nadeau

G^{llm}e Monforton
Not P^e

Endorsed: M^r Schieffelin

Translation

In the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, the twenty-fifth of the month of August, before the notary undersigned appeared Mr. Joseph Serré called St. John,⁵³ master tailor of Detroit, who, in his own name and in the names of the Tremblay heirs, has declared, and by these presents does declare, that the adjudicature announced after parish mass the twenty-fourth of this current month at the instance of Jonathan Schieffelin⁵⁴ with respect to the

⁵³ Joseph Serré (Cerré) *dit* St. Jean was the grandson of Andrew Serré *dit* St. Jean, who came to Canada from the province of Languedoc, France, and married at Quebec, May 3, 1706, Mary Ann Boilard, daughter of Jean Boilard and Jane Mirandeau. Their son, Denis Serré *dit* St. Jean, born in 1724, married in 1749 Veronica Rochereau *dit* Morisseau. Their son Joseph, subject of the present sketch, was born at Montreal, Jan. 22, 1752. He came to Detroit, where on Oct. 28, 1782, he married Mary Teresa Seguin *dit* Laderoute, daughter of Cajetan Seguin *dit* Laderoute and Mary Geneviève Tremblay. He lived at the Northeast Coast of Detroit (Private Claim 26, in Grosse Pointe), where modern St. Jean Avenue preserves his name. Teresa Seguin was buried at Detroit on Oct. 6, 1801, and Joseph married (second) Nov. 24, 1806, Elizabeth Beaufait, daughter of Louis Beaufait and Mary Teresa Marsac. Joseph Serré was buried Sept. 24, 1822; his widow was buried Jan. 4, 1857. See Denissen, *op. cit.*

⁵⁴ Jonathan Schieffelin was a relative of Jacob Schieffelin, who served as secretary to Governor Henry Hamilton and held the rank of lieutenant in the British service. Jacob was at Detroit as late as 1783 when he endeavored to anticipate William Caldwell and his associates in procuring a large tract of land at the mouth of the Detroit River where Amherstburg was soon after founded. He subsequently engaged in business in Montreal, and in 1794 in New York, where both his firm and his descendants were long prominent.

Both Jacob and Jonathan Schieffelin were active on the British side in the Revolution. Jonathan served as lieutenant in Louis Chabert de Joncaire's company of Detroiters which went on Captain Henry Bird's invasion of Kentucky in 1780, and Alexander McKee formally certified on May 8, 1787, that throughout the late war Schieffelin had served on the several expeditions sent from Detroit against the Americans, as well as in the defense of the place against hostile attack. In 1793 Schieffelin was petitioning Governor Simcoe for half-pay in recognition of his military service, and upon the American occupation he formally signified his intention to remain a British subject. Instead, he remained in Detroit and was soon prominent in the official councils of the new American régime. A letter written by him in 1799 reflects a tone of deep loyalty to the new government and discloses that he had won the friendship of General Wilkinson and was serving in an important capacity in the Indian Department. He was elected to the Assembly of Northwest Territory which met at Chillicothe in November, 1801, and in May, 1803, on returning from the legislative session, was voted the "freedom of the Corporation" of Detroit for services rendered. A letter dated at New York, August 17, 1804, preserved in the Burton Hist. Coll., shows that Schieffelin had then been absent from Detroit for some time, and that he no longer regarded it as his place of residence. He continued to reside in New York the remainder of his life. Schieffelin was one of the group of associates of John Askin and others which, in 1795, entered upon an enterprise looking to securing

land of Pierre Champagne⁵⁵ at Grand Marais,⁵⁶ is null and void; and he prohibits and forbids any action on the part of the adjudicator to take possession of the said land, unless the said Jonathan Schieffelin pays the claims of the said Tremblay heirs⁵⁷ upon the said land for their share in the estate of their late father and mother, concerning which the said Joseph Serré has requested legal action hereby granted to him, and signed at Detroit the day and year above mentioned.

In presence of William Monforton, Notary Public
Francis Pepin⁵⁸
Martin Nadeau⁵⁹

Endorsed: [by John Askin] Mr. Schieffelin

from Congress a grant of some 20,000,000 acres of land, comprising, roughly, most of the present lower peninsula of Michigan. Members of Congress were offered large bribes by the eastern agents of the group, who undertook to pilot the grant through Congress, but upon exposure by a South Carolina member of the House, the scheme was defeated. Schieffelin was living as late as the summer of 1827. See *Mich. Pio. Colls., passim*; C. M. Burton (ed.), *Journal of the Board of Trustees 1802-1805* (Detroit, 1922), *passim*; C. M. Burton, *History of Detroit 1780-1850* (Detroit, 1917), 23-35, 45-46; *One Hundred Years of Business Life, 1794-1894: W. H. Schieffelin and Co., New York*.

⁵⁵ The Champagnes (Champaignes) of Detroit were descendants of Pierre Huyet of the province of Champagne, France. His son, Etienne Huyet, born at Charleville in Champagne, learned the shoemaking trade and migrated to Canada, where on June 8, 1718, he married at Montreal Barbara Fortier *dit* La Fortune, daughter of Stephen Fortier and Margaret Lauson. Their son, Pierre Huyet *dit* Champagne, was born at L'Ange Gardien, June 22, 1733. On June 9, 1760, he married at Detroit Regina Christina Tremblay, daughter of Augustin Tremblay and Mary Judith La Forest. The couple lived on a farm at Fox Creek in Grosse Pointe, where all but two of their twelve children were born. Pierre Huyet was buried at Detroit, Oct. 30, 1805. See Denissen, *op. cit.*

⁵⁶ The Grand Marais of Detroit in the French period was that portion of the settlement lying opposite the upper end of Belle Isle, where the river makes its exit from Lake St. Clair.

⁵⁷ This was evidently a dispute between relatives. In the summer of 1750 three Tremblay brothers, Pierre, Augustin, and Ambrose, came to Detroit from Lower Canada. All settled in the Grosse Pointe region and all reared large families. Pierre Champagne was the son-in-law of Augustin Tremblay, having married his daughter, Regina Christina. Her parents were living at the time of this controversy, but Ambrose Tremblay and his wife were both dead, and the heirs here referred to were evidently their children, and hence first cousins of Champagne's wife.

⁵⁸ There were members of the Pepin family at Detroit from about the time of the Revolution onward, but we have not identified the family connection of Francis. In the Askin Papers he is characterized as a "trader." In November, 1786, he obtained from the Potawatomi Indians a grant forty by one hundred arpents in extent lying between Sand Creek and Stony Creek in modern Monroe County. This he sub-

DEATH OF ANTOINE RENAUD

au Poste vincennes Le 3^e Juin 1789

A M^r John Askin
neg^t au Detroit

Monsieur Cest au nom et de La part de S^r Joseph Ducharme que je vous Écrit La présente, pour vous annoncer La mort Funeste d'Antoine Reneaud, son Beau Frere, tué par les Quiquapoux Le 24^e May dernier a environ Sept Lieux en Bas de ce village, Revenant d'hivernement; Le dit S^r ducharme ayant été Élu Et Reconnu administrateur En la Succesion du dit Défunt Reneaud, et ayant été informé quoy qu'indirectement qu'il vous étoit duë par le dit reneaud une Somme assers Considerable, Et qu'en Consequence vous pouviez prétendre sur La succession, qui est peu considerable a La vérité—Elle consiste seulement en

sequently sold to George McDougall and George Meldrum, who improved the property by building two mills and several houses on it. In 1798 Pepin leased from Todd and McGill a mill in this vicinity, which he held for several years, making little or no payments on the annual rental. The debt was finally compounded for a small sum about the close of 1804.

Pepin seems to have enjoyed intimate relations with the Indians, and in 1795 he labored effectively to induce them to attend the Greenville negotiations, encountering in this connection the vigorous opposition of Rev. Edmund Burke, whom he characterized in terms of exceeding pungency. *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XII, 169-70. In association with Romaine de Chambre and Gabriel Godfroy, Pepin obtained a grant of 2500 acres of land on Huron River where now is the city of Ypsilanti, where they had conducted a trading post. Misfortune, however, dogged Pepin's footsteps. In December, 1814, Father Gabriel Richard appealed to the commandant at Detroit on behalf of "the most distressed person existing in this territory, Francis Pepin." Richard described him as afflicted with palsy and scarcely able to "utter a few broken words," and begged that the grant of rations formerly supplied him be restored. On Feb. 19, 1816, he was buried at Detroit, "aged about fifty-five years." Information adapted from *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*, and mss. in Burton Hist. Coll., *passim*.

59 The American founder of the Detroit line of Nadeau was Joseph Osanny Nadeau, born in France in 1637, who came to Canada, married Margaret Abraham, and was buried at Ste. Famille, Isle of Orleans, Feb. 12, 1677. He left a son, Jean Baptiste, born in 1670, and he, in turn, a son of the same name, born Sept. 21, 1700. The latter married Margaret Carbonneau and died in 1722, leaving a posthumous son, also named Jean Baptiste, who was born at Berthier, Dec. 22, 1722. He married Martha Fournier in 1745, and to them three sons were born, Joseph, Martin, and Anthony. All came west to Detroit, and ultimately located at St. Antoine, Raisin River. Martin Nadeau, subject of the present sketch, married at Sandwich, Aug. 14, 1786, Mary Réaume, daughter of Jean Baptiste Réaume and Agatha Lootman dit Barrois. In 1790 they settled at Raisin River, where Martin Nadeau was buried March 15, 1842. They had fourteen children, the first two and the last of whom were born at Detroit, the others at Raisin River. Information adapted from Denissen, *op. cit.*

deux garçons Mulatres, Esclaves agés d'environ dix huit ans, et Fort peu de chose d'ailleurs, il se propose de faire des informations sur la partie des illinois, Comme S^r Reneaud y a Fait sa Résidence plusierus années, Je croye suivant ce que j'en aye oüi dire quil ny a pas grande chose a Esperer de ses Cotés la: il vous prie d'adresser vos affaires a quelq'un de cet endroit, si vous ne pouvez venir Vous même ou Envoyer un commis soux Six mois, terme accordé Et Fixé pour Regler la ditte succession, et aussy en informer toutes personnes qui peuvent y prétendre; Madame Ducharme soeur du dit défunt Reneaud, vous informera par une seconde Lettre des droits Echus a son Frere, par Le décès de leur defunts peres et meres en Canada, dont elle dit qu'ille na rien Touché, vous pouvez en attendant en Faire nous même des informations a Montreal, Lieu de sa naissance; mon inclination me portant a vouloir vous obliger, je vous offre mes services, je vous me croyez Capable de vous etre de quelque Services; En ce pays, vous me trouverez toujours disposé a vous assurer du profond Respect.

Monsieur

De votre tres humble Et Tres obeiss^t Serviteur
 Antoine Gamelin
 Notaire Etc. et Greffier

Addressed: Monsieur M^r John Askin Marchand du detroit
 Au Detroit

Endorsed: Post Vincent June 3^d 1789 Mons^r Antoine
 Gamlin to Jn^o Askin Recv^d 4^h July Wrote him Oct^r
 14^h 1789

Translation

Post Vincennes, June 3, 1789

Mr. John Askin,
 Merchant at Detroit,

Sir: I write you now in the name and on the behalf of Mr Joseph Ducharme to tell you of the sad death of Antoine Renaud, his brother-in-law, killed by the Kickapoo the 24th

of May last about seven miles below this village as he was returning from his winter quarters. The said Mr. Ducharme having been appointed and acknowledged administrator of the estate of the said deceased Renaud, and being informed, although indirectly, that a considerable sum is owing to you by the said Renaud, and that in consequence you could present a claim against the estate, which in truth, is very little (it consists of two mulatto boys, slaves, about eighteen years of age, and scarcely anything else) he intends making inquiry at the Illinois where Mr. Renaud has made his home for several years.⁶⁰ I believe, from what I have heard, that nothing much may be expected from that quarter. Mr. Ducharme thinks you might write to someone there, if you cannot go yourself, or send a clerk within the next six months the time granted and fixed for settling the said estate and for all claims to be entered.

Mrs. Ducharme, sister of the said deceased Renaud, will inform you by another letter concerning her brother's interest in the estate of their deceased father and mother of Canada, of which she says that he has collected nothing. Meanwhile, you might inquire yourself at Montreal, his birthplace.

I would like to oblige you and therefore offer my services. If you think there is anything I can do for you here, you will find me ready at any time to give you every assurance of the profound regard,

Sir, of your very humble and very obedient Servant

Antoine Gamelin⁶¹

Notary Public and Recorder

⁶⁰ The *Kaskaskia Records* disclose that in 1779 Renaud was a resident of Kaskaskia. August 31 of that year he contributed 500 pounds of flour for the support of the "Troops Belonging to the State of Virginia." In December following he signed a protest addressed to the magistrates against the "brigandage and tyranny" of the same soldiers; and in May, 1782, he signed a memorial on the maintenance of order. A different picture of Renaud's estate than the one presented in this document, is given in a letter of William McIntosh to Askin, June 15, 1801. It describes the two slaves as valuable, and as having been sold, one to Francis Vigo and one to Colonel Hamtramck, much below their value. It states, also, that Renaud died possessed of a considerable quantity of peltries and 400 acres of land.

⁶¹ Antoine Gamelin was long a prominent trader and influential French resident of Vincennes. In the spring of 1790 he was selected by General Harmar to convey a

JOHN ASKIN PAPERS

Addressed: Mr. John Askin Merchant of Detroit Detroit.

FROM CHARLES MORISON TO JOHN ASKIN

Michilimakinac 15th June 1789

Dear Askin Your very much esteemed favour of the 28th March I received the 19th April, Which was much latter than we expected, Owing to Our express being so long detained at your Post for the letters from below.

I must beg leave to offer my most sincere thanks to you & all your good fameily for their attention & kind sentiments, on hearing of the reestablishment of my health. I do most sincerely assure you & them all, that I am very proud of their friendship, because I am convinced it is sincere, And should be exceeding happy to have it in my Power to convince them, that their friendship & civilities is not thrown a way on an ungrateful Person.

I am sorry to find there is such a General scarcity of Provisions at all the Posts, especially at yours, as it will affect this place very much when the crowd comes in. For at present there is neither a bushel of corn nor an hundred weight of flour to be had at this place at any price; the crop of Indian Corn having failed among the Indians last year as well as in other Places. The Garrison Baker (the only one in the place) has now liberty from the commanding Officer to sell his bread at 4/ a loaf. This scarcity of Provisions has induced me to purchase from the troops about 15 hundred weight of Salt Pork, which I expect to turn into Skins or money in the course of this summer.

The Winter here has been very severe & long, the Ice only begun to give way the 25th April. The Garrison &c has been very healthy.

I have lately joined with M^r John Barthe in a small Adventure to Lake Superior, the conditions are. I to furnish

proffer of peace to the tribes residing along the Wabash and at the headwaters of the Maumee. Gamelin's mission proved futile, but his journal of it has several times been printed.

the greatest part of the dry Goods & all the Rum. He is to transact the business, and after all the Goods & expences are paid, Whatever profit may be in the Adventure are to be equally divided between him & me. He left this the 18th Ult^o On my arrival there [here] last fall, I reduced the price of Rum from 32/ to 24/, and have lately sold it at 20/, but hitherto there has been little or no demand for it. With respect to my transactions since I have been here in the way of business; the whole May amount to about £800 York. Though but little, it is more than I expected to do in such a poor pitiful place as this is in Winter.

Yesterday I received your favour of the fifth instand, By which I am glad to hear that you and famely are well. We have had no trade here this Spring. The Indians to the West being all at war with one an Other. M^r Barthe returned here Yesterday & has done Nothing, as there was so many Other traders there before him. As the Troops are ordered on board I have not time [to] Say any thing mor, Only my best wishes waits on you & famely. And am

Dear Sir Your Very Hum^l^e Ser^t
Charles Morison

M^r John Askin

Addressed: M^r John Askin Merch^t Detroit.

Endorsed: Mich. June 15th 1789 M^r C. Morrison to Jn^o Askin recv^d y^e 20th Answ^d y^e 29th

CHIPPEWA GRANT TO RICHARD CORNWALL

KNOW all men by these presents that we the Chiefs of the Chippawa Nation of Indians by & with the consent of the whole of our Nation & in consideration of the good will love & affection we bear unto Richard Cornwall of Detroit Master Builder, have given granted, released and confirmed in the Year 1780 and do by these presents now renew the Same to our beloved friend the said Richard Cornwall his heirs and assigns for ever—a certain tract of Land lying

and situate on the North west side of the River S^t Clare commencing at the Point of Belle River running from thence Northwards Forty Arpents in front by One hundred & fifty in depth all and singular the Estate right, title, interest, property claim or demand whatsoever of us the said Chiefs or any of our Nation of, in and to the premisses and every part and parcel thereof—TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said Tract of Land all and singular the appurtenances unto the said Richard Cornwall his heirs, and assigns for the only proper use and behoof of him the said Richard Cornwall his heirs and assigns for ever and we the said Chiefs for ourselves and the whole of our Nation our and their heirs and assigns shall and will warrant and for ever defend by virtue of these presents. IN WITNESS WHEREOF we have hereunto affixed the marks of our different Tribes at Detroit this 26 day of JUNE in the year of our Lord One Thousand seven hundred and Eighty Nine

Signed, Sealed and delivered in the presence of us

[Totem] Muskyash jun^r his mark

T. Smith
William Cook
Louis Barthe

Appended: John Askin—Rec^d in my office 19th May 1797. P A

Registered in my office in the book N^o 1. pages 76 & 77. Peter Audrain recorder.

Endorsed: Recorded in the Land Office at Detroit in Liber E folio 59 &c By me G^o Hoffman R.

Attached: WE the Chiefs of the Chippawa Nation of Indians, having been Asked by John Askin senior of Detroit merchant If our Ancestors & selves did in the year 1780 sell unto Rich^d Cornwell Master Ship Builder a Tract of Land whose Situation & Extent is more fully Explained on the other Side of this paper to whom we Answered we did

& that we were Ready now to confirm what we or our chiefs had then done & having learnt from him that he had purchased Said Land from said Cornwell, WE DO now by these Presents once more confirm the aforesaid Sales made so S^d Cornwell & by him to our good Friend said John Askin Senior his Heirs & Assigns & declare that we did on the _____ Instant deliver over to Robert Nichol⁶² for the use of said Askin his Heirs & Assigns the aforesaid mentioned Lands and Shewed to him their Boundaries & marks and as a further mark of our approbation & consent to his purchase of s^d Tract we Promise to Build him a House on the Same & we further declare that he has this day of his own free will & consent made us a Present Exclusive of Provisions for our Wives & Children. IN TESTIMONY of all which, we have made our marks after Mons^r Baptiste Sanscrainte⁶³ having Explained to us the contents of the foregoing, at Detroit this Third of June 1796.

Niggig [Totem and Seal]

62 Robert Nichol is supposed to have been born in Dumfriesshire, Scotland, about the year 1774. He probably first came to Detroit in the autumn of 1795, when he entered upon a three-year term of employment as clerk to John Askin. The articles of indenture describe him as a "gentleman." He later engaged in trade at Queenston and in time achieved local prominence. He served in the War of 1812, being present at the capture of Detroit and there saving, it is said, Daniel Dobbin from being executed by Brock for supposed violation of his parole. He became lieutenant colonel of the Second Norfolk Militia, and subsequently quartermaster general of militia. For his services he was presented with a sword of honor by the legislature of Upper Canada. He married Therese Wright, only surviving child of Dr. Thomas Wright and Therese Grant, and a granddaughter of Commodore Alexander Grant. He was accidentally killed in 1824, by falling over a precipice near Queenston. See Askin Papers, *passim*; *Major Alpin's Ancestors and Descendants* (Aberdeen, 1904), 15-16; *Officers of the British Forces in Canada During the War of 1812*; Burton, *City of Detroit, Michigan, 1701-1922*, I, 709. An extensive biography of Nichol's public career is in Ontario Hist. Soc., *Papers and Records*, XIX.

63 Jean Romain *dit* Sanscrainte, born in the parish of St. Martial, Angoulême, France, in 1696, came to Canada and married at Montreal June 30, 1722, Mary Joseph Leblanc. The bride was the daughter of Julian Leblanc and Ann Vanier, and was born at Charlesbourg, June 7, 1698.

Jean Baptiste Romain *dit* Sanscrainte, son of Jean Romain and Mary Joseph Leblanc, was born at Montreal, May 16, 1723, and married there, Feb. 25, 1754, Susanne Amable Deneau, daughter of Andrew Deneau and Frances Boyer.

Their son, also named Jean Baptiste, born in 1754, married at Detroit, Oct. 13, 1778, Margaret Solo, daughter of Claude Solo and Margaret Descomps *dit* Labadie. They reared a large family. Margaret Solo was buried at Detroit, March 19, 1793. See Denissen, *op. cit.*

JOHN ASKIN PAPERS

Done in the presence of Chi gin ebé [Totem and Seal]
Tho^s Smith Domini quinze [Totem and Seal]
B^t Sans Crainte Wa be sin qua [Totem and Seal]
Ale^x Maisonville Jun^r⁶⁴

Endorsed: Lands given by the Chippawas on the R-
S^t Clare to Rich^d Cornwall in the year 1780 and now the
same gift renewed by the young Chiefs, 1789.

N^o 2 C 284 words

DIVISION OF DEBTS OF THE MIAMIS COMPANY⁶⁵

At a meeting of the Members of the Miamis Company held this day at the Store of John Askin, respecting a final division of the debts due to them it was agreed upon by all parties as follows; Viz^t

John Askin for his proportion of divided debts, agreed to accept of whatever might be due to the said Company by Dagneaux Dequindre,⁶⁶ Baptist Reaume, and Charles

⁶⁴ The Detroit Maisonvilles were descended from Robert Rivard *dit* Loranger, born in France in 1638, who in 1664 married in Canada Magdelene Guillet, a native of Three Rivers. They lived, and are buried, at Batiscan. Their children went by various names—Feuilleverte, Montendre, and Rivard. The tenth (and youngest), René Alexis Rivard *dit* Loranger, born at Batiscan, Oct. 27, 1691, was the father of Alexis Loranger *dit* Maisonville and Joseph Loranger *dit* Maisonville. Both sons were born at Batiscan and both came to Detroit. James Sterling's letter book discloses that one of them (probably Alexis) in February, 1765, had just returned from a mission to the Indians of the Illinois, and Sterling describes him as "a very sensible fellow," well acquainted with the country and with the several Indian tribes. Letter to John Duncan, Feb. 26, 1765. Alexis Maisonville was twice married, and had several sons, one of whom may have been the signer of this document. We infer that Alexis Maisonville of Detroit is identical with the individual of the same name who assisted Governor Hamilton with information concerning the country between Detroit and Vincennes in 1778. A brother, François, was a resident of Miamitown prior to the Revolution. He was captured by George Rogers Clark, who was about to put him to death when the plea of Alexis caused him to desist. He was sent with Hamilton to prison in Williamsburg, Virginia, where he committed suicide. Genealogical data adapted from Denissen, *op. cit.*

⁶⁵ From the original manuscript in the Dominion Archives in Ottawa.

⁶⁶ For the Dequindre family see *ante*, 205-206. The individual here alluded to was probably Antoine Dequindre.

Reaume, be their balances more or less, than the sums they stand at, in the Company's books. Meldrum & Park for their proportion of divided debts agreed to accept of whatever might be due to the said Company, by Gouin⁶⁷ & Chabert,⁶⁸ Jean Baptiste Constant, and Joseph Gamelin, be their balances more or less, than the sums they stand at, in the Companys books. Leith & Shepherd, for their proportion of divided debts agreed to accept of whatever might be due to the said Company, by Alexander Mc-

⁶⁷ The Gouin family was one of the oldest in Detroit. Its American founder, Mathurin Gouin, born in the diocese of Poitiers, France, in 1638, married at Three Rivers, Nov. 20, 1663, Mary Magdelene Vien, who was born at Three Rivers, Jan. 20, 1650. They lived at Ste. Anne de la Perade, where three children were born to them: Joseph, in 1671; Louis, in 1683; and Mary Ann in 1685. Louis was in Detroit as early as 1708, but his permanent home remained in Lower Canada. Joseph Gouin also lived and died at Ste. Anne de la Perade. He married there in 1701. His third child, Claude Jean Thomas Gouin, born June 6, 1710, came to Detroit, where on Jan. 13, 1742, he married Mary Joseph Cuillerier *dit* Beaubien. He was a surveyor and made his home at the Northeast Coast of Detroit. He was buried, May 29, 1776; his widow was buried, Jan. 2, 1808. They had thirteen children, one of whom was probably the individual here noted. A daughter, Judith, born July 2, 1763, became the wife of Philip Daniel de Joncaire de Chabert. See Denissen, *op. cit.*

⁶⁸ The family of Chabert (or Joncaire-Chabert) was one of the most notable in New France. Its American founder was Louis Thomas de Joncaire, who was born in the diocese of Arles, in Provence, in 1670. He enlisted in the army and, coming to Canada, married at Montreal, March 1, 1706, Madelaine Le Guay, a native of that city, who was born, Oct. 6, 1689. She was buried at Repentigny, June 22, 1771; Louis Thomas de Joncaire died in 1739. They had a large family of children, at least four of whom entered the army, and two of whom had, like their father, notable careers in Canada. The best account of their lives is found in Frank H. Severance, *An Old Frontier of France* (New York, 1917). Vol. I, chap. xvi of this work is devoted more especially to reciting the services of the sons. "The father and two of the sons were the most influential agents the French ever sent among the Iroquois. For many years, their influence was the greatest force opposed to Colonel (later Sir) William Johnson and the English governors of New York Province."

The sons here alluded to were Philip Thomas de Joncaire de Chabert, born at Montreal, Jan. 9, 1707, and Daniel de Joncaire de Chabert, born at Repentigny, Jan. 6, 1716. The elder succeeded to his father's position of influence over the Iroquois, and the younger, for twenty years prior to the downfall of New France, ably assisted him in this rôle. Going to France on the surrender of Canada, Daniel de Joncaire de Chabert was imprisoned in the Bastille in 1761 on charges of speculations committed in Canada. Released after two years, he returned to Canada and embarked on the western fur trade with headquarters at Detroit; but the British authorities were suspicious of his loyalty, and of his influence over the natives, and their restrictions, combined with other factors, prevented him from retrieving his shattered fortunes. He was buried at Detroit, July 5, 1771. Aside from his Seneca wife and family among the Iroquois, Chabert had married at Montreal, Jan. 19, 1751, Margaret Elizabeth Ursula Robbert de la Morandière, who died at Detroit in January, 1773. They had several children who married at Detroit and became progenitors of a far-flung family line. See Denissen, *op. cit.*; Severance, *op. cit.*; and *Burton Hist. Coll. Leaflet*, VI, 1-16.

Cormick, Joseph Hunot,⁶⁹ David Gray & Co and James Ryley,⁷⁰ be their balances more or less, than the sums they stand at in the Company's Books. Sharp & Wallace, for their proportion of same agreed to accept of whatever might be due to the said Company by Nicholas Lassell,⁷¹ Joseph St Marie, Janot Charon,⁷² & Paul Gamelin, be their balances, more or less, than the sums they stand at, in the Company's books.

69 On the Hunot family line see *ante*, 199. Gabriel Hunot, there mentioned as thrice married, had as his third wife Magdelene Susanne Henry *dit* Laforge, whom he married at Montreal, May 31, 1730. Their second child, Joseph Hunot, lived at the Northeast Coast of Detroit, where on April 8, 1766, he married Mary Joseph Robert, who was born at Detroit, Jan. 26, 1750. They had two sons: Joseph, born, July 4, 1771, and Anthony Padua, born August 30, 1773. Evidently the elder Joseph Hunot was the person noted in the present document. There was another Joseph Hunot, born at Montreal in 1726, a second cousin of the Gabriel mentioned herein, who may possibly have been the individual here noted. Information adapted from Denissen, *op. cit.*

70 James Van Slyck Ryley was born in Schenectady, New York, about the year 1760, being a descendant of Cornelis Antonissen Van Slyck, who married a Mohawk woman, and in 1662 received from Governor Stuyvesant one of the earliest land grants ever made on the site of Schenectady. James Van Slyck Ryley came to Detroit about the year 1781. He engaged in the Indian trade and followed the ancestral tradition by marrying a Chippewa woman of the Saginaw Bay region. After spending about twenty years in the Indian trade, Van Slyck returned to Schenectady, where he was long a prominent citizen, and where he died, Jan. 8, 1848. He was a man of forceful personality, whose memory was treasured by his Detroit associates, despite an absence of over forty years' duration. One of his sons, John Ryley, became chief of a Chippewa band in modern St. Clair County, and along with his brothers performed useful service for the Americans in the War of 1812. Ryley Township, St. Clair County, is named for him. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*; William L. Jenks, *History of St. Clair County, Mich.*, *passim*; and obituary notice of Judge Ryley in *Detroit Daily Advertiser*, Feb. 1, 1848.

71 On the Lacelle family line see *ante*, 197. The fourth child of Jacques Lacelle and Angelica Gibaut, there noted, was Nicholas Lacelle, born at Montreal, Feb. 17, 1715. He came to Detroit and here married, Jan. 14, 1754, Mary Joseph Cardinal, daughter of Jean Baptiste Cardinal and Mary Louisa Massiot. He resided on St. Jacques Street and followed the trade of carpenter. He was buried, April 28, 1779. His wife was buried, Sept. 26, 1763. They had several children, the eldest of whom, Nicholas Lacelle, was born, July 3, 1755. It seems probable that he was the individual mentioned herein. See Denissen, *op. cit.*

72 The Charons of Detroit were descended from Pierre Charon, who married Judith Martin and resided in St. Martin Parish, diocese of Meaux, France. Their son, Pierre, born in 1640, migrated to Canada and married at Montreal, Oct. 19, 1665, Mary Catherine Pilet, who was also a native of France. They lived in Lower Canada and were buried at Montreal, Pierre in 1700 and Mary Catherine in 1717. Their only son, Nicholas Charon, born at Boucherville, April 9, 1676, married on Jan. 15, 1703, Mary Magdelene Viau, who was born at Montreal, June 11, 1673. The eldest child and only son of this couple, Jacques Charon, was born at Longueuil, Sept. 1, 1710, and married at Boucherville, Sept. 16, 1743, Mary Audet *dit* Lapointe, daughter of Innocent Audet *dit* Lapointe and Geneveva Lemelin. Apparently they

James Abbott for his proportion of divided debts, agreed to accept of Two Thousand, Three hundred pounds, of the Debt, due by Frances Viegos of Post Vincennes, to be estimated in proportion to the sum of Four Thousand, Seven hundred pounds, said to be due by said Viego to the Company in all, but these sums are to be the portions to be divided upon, should said Viego's debt prove more or less.

Angus Mackintosh, for his proportion of divided debts, agreed to accept of whatever might be due to the Company, by Louis Baby,⁷³ Nicholas Perrot,⁷⁴ or William Mackintosh,⁷⁵ be their balances more or less than those stated in

removed in later years to Detroit, for their three sons (the youngest born at Boucherville in 1761) all became residents here. All married and became progenitors of the later Charon line. The individual mentioned in the present document has not been identified. Information adapted from Denissen, *op. cit.*

⁷³ For the Baby line see *ante*, 292. Louis Baby was the son of Raymond Baby and Teresa Lecompte *dit* Dupré and the elder brother of Jacques Baby *dit* Dupéron. He was born at Montreal, Sept. 23, 1727, and married there, on July 24, 1758, Louisa Decouagne, daughter of Jean Baptiste Decouagne and Margaret Degannes. The Baby brothers (Louis, Antoine, François, and Jacques) were notable partisan leaders in the warfare waged by the French in the Ohio Valley during the Seven Years' War. In July, 1760, Vaudreuil at Montreal issued a formal certificate reciting their services to the king and the exploits they had performed. After the war Louis resided at Montreal and again engaged in the western fur trade, which he had followed before the war. The hardships he underwent aged him before his time, according to Casgrain. He was buried at Detroit, May 8, 1785. He had a son, Louis, who was also engaged in the fur trade and who is the individual mentioned in the present document. He was at Ste. Genevieve in the Illinois in 1791. Information adapted from Denissen, *op. cit.*, and Casgrain, *op. cit.*, 69-72.

⁷⁴ Probably, Nicholas Louis Perrault, who was born in Canada, July 6, 1752, and died in the Illinois country. The Perrault family was one of considerable distinction in Canada and the western country. Its American founder was François Perrault, who migrated to Canada about the year 1705 and married at Quebec, Nov. 22, 1715, Susanne Pagé de Carcy. François Perrault was a merchant at Quebec. They had twelve children. The fifth, Louis François, born in 1721, married Marie Joseph Baby, an elder sister of Jacques Baby *dit* Dupéron of Detroit. Nicholas Louis, here noted, was the second of their twelve children. Their third child, Joseph François, born June 2, 1753, became known as the "father" of education in Canada. See P. B. Casgrain, *La Vie de Joseph François Perrault* . . . (Quebec, 1898).

⁷⁵ William McIntosh was a brother of James McIntosh and of Angus McIntosh, for whom see *ante*, 293 and 308. He was an attorney and about the year 1800 located at Vincennes, where he did considerable legal business for John Askin. Letters in the Sibley Papers, preserved in the Burton Hist. Coll., disclose that he was living at Vincennes as late as 1816 and that in 1823 he had been for some time residing at Grand Rapids near Palmyra, Illinois. In 1811 he was sued for slander by Governor Harrison, for criticisms uttered of the latter's Indian policy, and condemned to pay \$4,000 damages. Harrison's most recent biographer, however, does not regard the verdict as necessarily indicative of the merits of the criticism. See Dorothy B.

the Company's books, & in the proportion of Five Hundred pounds of Frances Viego's, to the whole of same, as in the preceding Article. And John Askin agrees to give the Company Fifty Pounds New York Currency, for the debt due by Joseph Gibbeau to the Company, which is to become his property; the said John Askin, obliging himself to prevent the said Joseph Gilbeau going to Sandusky, as much as in his power; And the Company oblige themselves to bring nothing against said Gilbeau, on account of his former conduct, unless they have reason to think he is going to Sandusky, in which case they are at liberty to pursue such Steps, as they think will prevent him going thither.

All other debts due to the Company, exclusive of those before Enumerated to be put into the hands of John Askin to be collected without unnecessary delay, for the general behoof of the Company; for which, a Commission of five per Centum is to be allowed on the sums collected, and the remainder, divided amongst the Members, in proportion to their shares in the Company. And it is agreed upon also, by all the parties, that the collection of said Frances Viego's Debt, shall be allotted to James Abbott, with power to compound for same at his discretion. And in consideration thereof, he agrees, & obliges himself to provid the Neat proceeds of whatever he may recover from said Frances Viego, between the Company, Angus Mackintosh, and himself, upon the following rates, viz: Nineteen hundred pounds for the Company's, Five hundred pounds, for Angus Mackintosh, & Twenty-three Hundred pounds for James Abbotts, Making in all, Four Thousand & Seven Hundred pounds, in all, as before mentioned.

The Company, & Angus Mackintosh, oblige themselves to bear a proportional part of the expences incurred in recovering, and Realizing the property that may be received from said Viego, according to the same rata as before. And in case any dispute should arise as to the reasonable-

Goebel, *William Henry Harrison, A Political Biography* (Indianapolis, 1926, *Indiana Hist. Colls.*, Vol. XIV), 125-26.

ness, or quantum of such expences, the same to be left to the decision of indifferent persons mutually chosen. And the said Company and Angus Mackintosh, agree to allow the said James Abbott, as a Commission for his personal trouble in recovering; five per Centum, upon the Neat sum actually realized at Detroit. The Company's proportion of what is thus realized to be divided amongst all its Members, in proportion to the shares they hold therein. Each Member of the Company, hereby obliges himself to execute without evasion or unnecessary delay, such assignments & Letters of Attorney irrevocable, as may be necessary to Vest a legal title in the person to whom each Debt is allotted and a relinquishment of all claims upon them by every other Member of the Company, as to their demands as Members, without injuring their private claims. And for the faithful performance of all and every the matters & things herein mentioned, and agreed upon, each Member binds himself to the whole, in the sum of, One Thousand Pounds, Quebec Currency, to be paid by the parties failing, to the Parties performing, or willing to perform.

This done and executed at Detroit, in the District of Hesse,⁷⁶ and Province of Quebec, this Ninth day of September, in the Year of Our Lord, One Thousand, seven hundred & Eighty Nine; & in the Twenty Ninth Year of his Majestys Reign.

Signed)

Signed, Sealed, & delivered
in presence of
John Richardson
Robert Stevens

John Askin (L. S.)
William Park
for Meldrum & Park (L. S.)
George Leith
for Leith & Shepherd (L. S.)
George Sharp
for Sharp & Wallace. (L. S.)
James Abbott. (L. S.)
Angus Mackintosh (L. S.)

⁷⁶ By proclamation of Lord Dorchester July 24, 1788, that part of the province of Quebec west of the eastern boundary of the township of Lancaster was divided into

JOHN ASKIN PAPERS

POWER OF ATTORNEY FROM THE MIAMIS COMPANY
TO JOHN ASKIN

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS That we Leith & Shepherd, Sharp & Wallace, Meldrum & Park, James Abbott & Angus Mackintosh, as members of the Miamis Company, have made, ordained, authorised, & appointed, & by these presents, do make, ordain, authorise & appoint, John Askin of Detroit, Merchant, our true & Lawful Attorney, irrevocable, for us & in our names, but to the use of him the said John Askin, to ask, demand, sue for, recover & receive, all such balance or balances, sum & sums of money, debts & demands whatsoever, which are now due & owing unto the said Miamis Company, from Baptiste Reaume, Charles Reaume, Dagneaux Dequindre, & Joseph Guilbeau, & in default of payment thereof, to have use & take all lawful ways & means, in our names or otherwise, for the recovery thereof; & on receipt thereof, Acquittances, or other sufficient discharges, for us & in our names, to make seal & deliver, & to do all lawful acts & things whatsoever, concerning the premises, as fully in every respect, as we ourselves, might or could do, if we were personally present; & an Attorney or Attorneys, under him, for the purposes aforesaid, to make, & at his pleasure to revoke, hereby ratifying & confirming, whatsoever our said Attorney shall in our names do, or cause to be done, in & about the premises, by virtue of these presents. In Witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands & Seals at Detroit in the District of Hesse this Twenty Second day of September, in the year of our Lord One thousand, seven hundred & Eighty Nine & in the Twenty Ninth year of his Majestys Reign.

four districts, to be known as Lunenburg, Mecklenburg, Nassau, and Hesse. The District of Hesse was the westernmost of the four, having Detroit as the seat of government and the principal town. This arrangement ended only with the American occupation in 1796, when Detroit became, from the governmental point of view, a part of the Northwest Territory. The first legislature of Upper Canada, in 1792, renamed the districts created by Lord Dorchester as follows: the Eastern; the Middle; the Home; and the Western District.

BURTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

For Thomas Shepherd & self

George Ironside⁷⁷
Witness

Geo. Leith (L.S.)

Will. Shepherd⁷⁸
Witness

For John Wallace & Self

Geo. Sharp (L.S.)

For George Meldrum & Self

William Park (L.S.)

James Abbott (L.S.)

Angus Mackintosh (L.S.)

Endorsed: Detroit Sep^r 22^d 1789

The Miamis C^o Power of Attorney to John Askin to recover paym^t from Bap^t & Charle Reaume, Degniau Dequaindre & Jo^a Guilbeau

ASSIGNMENT OF CLAIMS OF THE MIAMIS COMPANY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS That we Sharp & Wallace, Leith & Shepherd, Meldum & Park, James Abbott & Angus Mackintosh as members of the Miamis Company, have assigned transferred & made over, & by these presents do assign transfer & make over unto

⁷⁷ George Ironside, born in 1760 and educated at King's College, Aberdeen, was a prominent trader of the Maumee Valley in the period subsequent to the Revolution. In 1789 he had an establishment at Miamitown, which was destroyed at the time of Harmar's invasion the following year. During the next few years he was established at the Glaize (modern Defiance, Ohio), which was destroyed in turn by General Wayne in 1794. At this place Ironside had an Indian wife, whose mother was the owner of Oliver Spencer during his captivity. Apparently, Ironside withdrew to Detroit after Wayne's campaign, and from here to Amherstburg upon the British evacuation of Detroit. At Amherstburg he was appointed clerk and storekeeper in the Indian Department. He died here in 1830. See *Mich. Pio. Colls., passim*; Henry Hay's Journal; and *The Indian Captivity of O. M. Spencer* (M. M. Quafe, ed. Chicago, 1917), *passim*.

⁷⁸ In 1791 William Shepherd was a member of Askin's militia company at Detroit, being entered on the roll as a clerk. In 1795 he was a partner in the firm of Leith and Shepherd at Detroit and Malden, which a year or two later became the firm of Leith Shepherd, and Duff. See Askin Papers, *passim*, and *Mich. Pio. Colls., passim*.

Know all men by these presents That we being
 G. F. Cook, Thos. J. Hallen, William J. Park, Isaac Abbott & Amos
 Mackintosh, as members of the Miamis Company, have made, made,
 authorized & approved, by these presents, to make, make, authorize &
 approve, John Cobbin of Detroit, Merchant, our true & lawful
 Attorney, irrevocable, for us & in our names, but to the use of him
 the said John Cobbin, to ask, receive, sue for, recover, and each
 balance or balances, our & ours of money, debts & demands whatsoever,
 which are now due & owing unto the said Miamis Company, from Deftos
 Deacons, Charles Deacon, Lieutenant, Legation, of Joseph Guillemet,
 by or as result of judgment thereof, to have use & take all lawful
 ways & means, in our name or otherwise, for the recovery thereof, & in
 receipt thereof, Acquittances, or other sufficient discharge, for us
 & in our names, to make, use & deliver, if it be all lawful acts &
 things & behavior, concerning the premises, as fully in every respect, as
 we ourselves might & could do, if we were personally present, & in
 Detroit & otherwise, under him, for the purposes aforesaid, to make, & if
 at his pleasure to revoke, hereby ratifying & conforming, & behaving
 our own Attorney, both in our names as, or cause to be done, in &
 about the premises by virtue of these presents. In Witness whereof
 we have hereunto set our hands & seals at Detroit in the District
 of Michigan this Twenty second day of September, in the year of our Lord
 One thousand, seven hundred & eighty three & in the Twenty fourth
 year of the Republic of the United States.

George F. Cook
 Thos. J. Hallen
 Will. Park
 Isac Abbott
 Amos Mackintosh

Geo. F. Cook
 Thos. J. Hallen
 Geo. Sharp
 Geo. Melburn
 Wm. Park
 Amos Mackintosh
 Angus Mackintosh

AUTOGRAPHS OF PARTNERS OF THE MIAMIS COMPANY
 Reproduced from the original manuscript in the
 Burton Historical Collection

JOHN ASKIN PAPERS

John Askin, his Executors, Administrators & Assigns, all our Shares, Rights, Claims, Titles & pretensions whatsoever, of the Balances due to the said Miamis Company from Baptiste Réaume, Charles Réaume, Dagneaux Dequindre, Joseph Guilbeau, & all benefits, proceeds, & profits thereof, which now are or hereafter shall become due & payable for the same, & all our Rights, Interests, Claims, & demands whatsoever of, in or to the same, or any part thereof, to have & to hold the said Balances & every part thereof unto the said John Askin, his Executors, Administrators & Assigns, to his own proper use & behoof for ever. And we the said Sharp & Wallace, Leith & Shepherd, Meldrum & Park, James Abbott & Angus Mackintosh for ourselves, our 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 own proper use & behoof the said Balances due from the said Baptiste Réaume, Charles Réaume, Dagneaux Dequindre & Joseph Guilbeau, to the Miamis Company, & all & every the proceeds & profits thereof, & of every part thereof, without any let, trouble, molestation or interruption of or by us the said Sharp & Wallace, Leith & Shepherd, Meldum & Park, James Abbott & Angus Mackintosh, our Executors, Administrators & Assigns or of 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 we have hereunto set our hands & Seals at Detroit, in the District of Hesse this Twenty Second day of September in the year of our Lord, One thousand, seven hundred & Eighty nine & in the Twenty ninth year of his Majestys Reign.

George Ironside
Witness

For John Wallace & Self

Geo. Sharp (L.S.)

BURTON HISTORICAL RECORDS

Will. Shepherd
Witness

For Thomas Shepherd & Self
Geo. Leith (L.S.)
For George Meldrum & Self
William Park (L.S.)
James Abbott (L.S.)
Angus Mackintosh (L.S.)

Endorsed [by John Askin]: The Miamis C^o transfer of all their demands on Bap^t & Charles Reaume, Jos. Guilbeau & Degneau Dequindre to Jn^o Askin the 22^d Sep^r 1789

AGREEMENT WITH NORTH WEST COMPANY FOR SUPPLIES

Detroit Sep^r 26th 1789

Sir Agreeable to what I mentioned to you this morning I will Engage to Furnish the North West C^o Yearly for three Successive Years to Commence next Spring with Six hundred Bushells of Hulled Corn French Measure at two dollars per Bushell & Twelve Thousand Pounds French Weight of Flour at One Pound Sixteen Shillings New York Cur. per C^t french or 108 lbs. English, to be delivered free of Expences on Board their Vessell here they furnishing the Baggs the whole of which shall be ready by the last of June of each year

I am Sir Your Most Obedient Humble Servant
John Askin

M^r John Gregory⁷⁹

⁷⁹ John Gregory was a member, in 1795, of the firm of McTavish, Frobisher and Company of Montreal, one of the partners in the North West Company. See Davidson, *The North West Company, passim*.

JOHN ASKIN PAPERS

AGREEMENT WITH NORTH WEST COMPANY FOR SUPPLIES

Sir Yours of this date with proposals for Supplying the North West Company with a Certain Quantity of Hull'd Indian Corn & Flower during the Space of Three years, in answer to Which, I do Hereby Accept of the Proposals therein Contain'd, for the Quantitys of Each Article & at the Prices therein Specified, the Payment for Which Shall Be Made in Montreal P^r Mess^{rs} M^cTavish Frobisher & C^o on the fifteenth day of October After the Delivery. I am Sir

Your most Hble Ser^t

John Gregory

Agent for the North West Comp^y

Detroit 24th Sept^r 1789

John Askin Esq^r

Addressed: John Askin Esq^r Merch^t Detroit

Endorsed: Detroit Sep^r 26th 1789 Agreem^t the N.W.C^o for Provisions