

American force, Askin and his wife, from their vantage point on the opposite shore, viewed the entire spectacle, fully anticipating that their sons would presently be locked in deadly combat with their son-in-law, and that in the event of British triumph their daughter and grandchildren within the fort would be exposed to the mercies of the tomahawk and scalping knife of Brock's red allies. The surrender of Hull, of course, prevented these eventualities.

As for Askin himself, during the months of British ascendancy at Detroit, the security of his property and person was unquestioned; with the advent of General Harrison's army in the autumn of 1813, he procured from that commander an order of protection while he should conduct himself as a non-combatant. But the American advent brought other woes upon him. In September, 1812, he wrote that he had four sons, three sons-in-law, and ten grandsons in military service. All but one son-in-law were on the British side; with the Americans in control at Detroit those of them who lived in this vicinity were exiled from their homes. Two sons-in-law in particular, Thomas McKee and Richard Pattinson, fled with their families in the wake of Procter's retreating army, and Mrs. Pattinson, who was Askin's youngest daughter, died during the flight.

Askin did not long survive the return of peace. Toward the end of March, 1815, a "Pacification Dinner" was arranged for at Detroit, and Askin, as an old Detrouiter and a leading citizen of the Canadian side, was invited to attend. He declined in a respectful note, giving as his reason his "advanced term of life and weak state of health." A month later he was dead.

Askin was the father of a numerous family of children. The three elder children, John Jr., Catherine, and Madelaine, were by an Indian mother, concerning whom we have no certain knowledge. Nor do we know the definite dates of birth of her children. It is a matter of record that John Askin Jr. was born at L'Arbre Croche, probably about the year 1762. L'Arbre Croche was an Ottawa town, and this fact would favor the presumption that Askin's consort was a member of this tribe. On September 9, 1766, Askin manu-