

modore," who for more than forty years commanded the British naval establishment on the upper lakes.

To Askin and his French wife nine children were born, two of whom died in infancy and a third in early manhood. The marriage connections formed by the others are of interest to our story; with them may be grouped the three elder children, who seem to have occupied a family status identical with that enjoyed by the children born to Mrs. Askin. John, the eldest, married at Detroit, Oct. 21, 1791, Mary Madelaine Peltier. He spent his life in the Indian trade and in the service of the British Indian Department; although not especially successful in trade, his Indian blood and connections made him of particular service to the government, especially in the years of warfare which began in 1812. His great influence with the Chippewa and Ottawa tribes was, of course, at the command of his government. He led this contingent in the descent upon Mackinac in July, 1812, and the fall of that post proved a powerful factor in the fall of Detroit the following month. Until the close of the war the British government kept Askin at Mackinac, where his influence over the Indians could be exercised to the fullest advantage. He died at Amherstburg about the close of the year 1819.

Catherine, the eldest daughter, married in 1778, at the age of fifteen, Captain Samuel Robertson, skipper of a sailing-vessel on the upper lakes. He died in 1782 and in 1785 Mrs. Robertson married (second) Robert Hamilton, who some years later located at the foot of the Niagara portage and became the founder of Queenston. William, a younger brother of Samuel Robertson, later became a leading merchant of Detroit and Canada, and he figures prominently in the Askin Papers. Robert Hamilton was a man of great shrewdness, who influenced powerfully all who came in contact with him. He became one of the most influential men of Upper Canada, and one of the wealthiest in all Canada. Madelaine, youngest of the mixed-blood children, became the wife of Robert Richardson, a surgeon in Simcoe's Rangers. They had many children, one of whom was Major John Richardson, who spent many years in the