

Translation

BEFORE US Thomas Williams,¹ undersigned notary of Detroit and there resident, and witnesses hereinafter named, was present Benjamin Chaput,² who voluntarily declares that he has sold, ceded, and assigned, with guaranty against all troubles, gifts, dowers, mortgages, alienations, and hindrances whatsoever, a tract of land, with buildings, of three arpents front, adjoining land of the Widow Lespiècle on one side, and of François Bernié on the other, situated on the south bank of the River Detroit such as it is and as it extends on all sides, to Anthony Soumande,³ accepting the same in accordance with these presents for himself, his heirs and assigns; and the said Soumande assumes the charges of *cens et rentes* and customary service, with release from the same, however, for all time past until this day; also for the price and sum of two thousand livres, Quebec currency, which sum the said vendor acknowledges to have received at different times in diverse payments by the hand of Mr. Monforton; firstly, the sum of six hundred and fifty-seven livres five sols for which the said land was mortgaged by a bond in favor of Mr. Antaya⁴ and which

¹ Thomas Williams was a native of Albany. He came to Detroit in 1765 and married here on May 7, 1781, Mary Cecilia Campau, daughter of Jacques Campau and Catherine Menard. He served as storekeeper, trader, merchant, keeper of the public records, justice, and notary. He was appointed justice and notary by Captain Richard B. Lernoult, after Philip Dejean left Detroit to join Governor Hamilton at Vincennes. Williams died at Detroit about the close of the year 1785. His son, John R. Williams, born in 1782, was mayor of Detroit for several terms and one of the city's prominent citizens for almost half a century ending with his death in 1854. See Denissen, *op. cit.*; Burton, *City of Detroit, 1701-1922*, I, 200 and II, 1203, 1402.

² Benjamin Chaput, born in 1748, was a grandson of Nicolas Chaput, a native of France who married at Montreal, April 19, 1689, Angelica Gautier, a native of that place. Benjamin married at Sandwich, April 4, 1785, Josette Rochereau *dit* Lespérance, who was born there, June 4, 1766. He was buried at Sandwich, Nov. 25, 1796; the widow was buried there, April 13, 1839. Denissen, *op. cit.*

³ Pierre, the founder of the line of Soumande in America, was a native of Gascony who married at Quebec, Nov. 16, 1649, Simone Coté, a native of that place. Pierre Soumande was buried at Quebec, Nov. 29, 1689. Anthony Soumande, a great-grandson of Pierre, born in 1752, married at Sandwich, Feb. 11, 1782, Regina Angelica Guillet *dit* Tourangeau, a native of that place. Anthony was buried at Sandwich, June 4, 1792; his widow was buried there, Feb. 28, 1845. A sister of Anthony Soumande, Mary Louisa Soumande *dit* Delorme, married William Monforton, for whom see *ante*, 107.

⁴ Probably Jean Baptiste Antaya, son of Augustin Peltier *dit* Antaya and Mary Charon. Jean Baptiste, born in 1739, married at Sandwich, Jan. 10, 1774, Mary