

the One part & M^r Montague Tremble on the Other relative to a Quantity of Packs taken by the Latter which the former Claims, having heard what Each of the Parties had to say in their Justification we are of Oppinion that Said M^r Tremble does deliver into the Possession of M^r Thomas Williams & Mess^{rs} Leithe & Shephard the Packs now in dispute provided they give him Sufficient Security that so soon as the Necessary Witnesses to clear up this Matter shall be Examined by us that they will then without delay for further Appeal Abide by Our Judgm^t of this Matter & pay to Said Montigue Tremble whatever Sum of Money we may then Award as his Share of the Packs now in Dispute.

Detroit Aug^t 31st 1785

William Robertson⁵³

John Askin

John MacPherson⁵⁴

W^m Maccomb

to the Revolution, and a partner of George Leith in the firm of Leith and Shepherd. About the year 1790 Shepherd paid a visit to England. On the return journey he was drowned in the Jacques Cartier River, May 25, 1791. A detailed and vivid recital of the event was given by his companion, John Richardson, in a letter to John Porteous, which is printed in Ontario Hist. Soc., *Papers and Records*, VI, 34-36. The body was recovered and conveyed by Richardson to Montreal where it was buried beside that of a "worthy friend, James Ellice." Whether Shepherd was a brother or other relative of William Shepherd, who was a clerk at Detroit in 1791 and subsequently a member of the firm of Leith, Shepherd, and Duff, with trading houses at Amherstburg and elsewhere, we have been unable to determine.

53 William Robertson was a younger brother of Capt. Samuel Robertson (for whom see *ante*, 54) who married Catherine Askin. William came to Detroit in 1782 to serve as Askin's clerk. He rose rapidly in the fur trade and in influence over his associates, becoming within a few years one of the leading men of Canada. About the year 1788 he associated David Robertson, a younger brother, in business with him, and two years later William left Detroit for England. Here he was appointed (in 1792) member of the Executive Council of Upper Canada, but he did not return to discharge this duty, having no inclination "to be locked up in a fort after breathing the air of freedom." The remainder of his life was passed in Lower Canada or England, save for a short stay in Detroit in 1795. He seems to have had a decided taste for public affairs, and much statesmanlike ability, as revealed by his letters among the Askin Papers. His later years were shrouded in the gloom of intemperate addiction to strong liquor, but it is significant that this affliction did not cause the forfeiture of the respect and affection of his old-time associates. Robertson married at New York City, Jan. 26, 1798, Cornelia Eleanor Brooks, a native of England and daughter of a British officer. She died at the age of twenty, some months after the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth Lucy Robertson. Robertson subsequently married Mrs. Ogilvie, mother of John Ogilvie, a prominent Montreal trader and after 1804 a partner in the North West Company. This union proved unfortunate, and was soon terminated by a separation. Elizabeth Lucy Robertson was made sole inheritor of her father's estate. She married Henry Ronalds, and they are still represented by descendants in Detroit, Windsor, and London, Ontario. Information adapted from William Robertson Papers and other mss. in Burton Hist. Coll.

54 John McPherson was engaged in trade at Detroit, his name appearing in the