

to return again wherever We chose. He then sent Speeches to our Indians, at and about the Shawnee Towns to invite them in, and after the arrival of the first, informed them of the whole matter. We then accordingly went with those Indians in search of a place, and pitched upon the spot We now live on, which was an entire Wilderness. We begun to Work on our Improvement the 26th July 1782, and have continued so untill the present Day, in which time we with our Indians, have built a small Villiage consisting of 27 log Houses, besides some Stables, out Cellars, and smaller Buildings. We have cleared Lands in different places about the Village, made fences ect: so that it appears to Us to be a Valuable Improvement at which, if it suited our Destination, we could now live contentedly and more at ease. But we, being sent by the Bishops of our Church to reside near the Dellaware Nation, to continue to Instruct them in the Gospel, as We had done this Thirty Years past, finding this not to be the proper place, that Nation being so far distant, and they not inclined to change a good hunting ground for a worse, neither, that the one half of the Indians belonging to Us have yet on this present Day joined Us on this very account. And moreover, We having found, that the Chibbuways become more and more Uneasy that We stay here so long on their Land after the peace. And that our Indians, whom they call expert Hunters, destroy all their Game. We therefore, have at length resolved to go to our former place, and for that purpose acquaint You of it. But at the same time We beg leave to ask a favour of You, which is: to sell our Improvement. We do not speak of selling the Land. The Chibbuways have frequently told Us that it belonged to them, and to nobody else. We only mention the Improvement, in which a vast [amount] of Labour is sunk. We understand, that a number of French intend to take posession of our Houses and Labour, without giving Us the least satisfaction, but We believe it to be far from the approbation of a Commanding Officer to see Us

for the settlement was an abandoned Indian village site above the mouth of the river about two miles west of the modern city of Mount Clemens.