

JOHN ASKIN PAPERS

dated memorandum in the Burton Hist. Coll., which probably belongs to the early nineteenth century, pertains to proof of the death and handwriting of the "late Robert Stevens."

33 William Forsyth is said to have been a native of Aberdeen, Scotland, who came to Canada as a British officer in 1760. He subsequently married a widow, Mrs. McKenzie, and located in Detroit, where he lived until his death. For many years he kept a tavern here. Forsyth had six sons, several of whom achieved considerable prominence. There is much confusion, in the various family accounts, concerning Forsyth's career, but from legal records it is certain that he was in Detroit as early as 1778 and was living here as late as Feb. 28, 1794. His tavern was sold by his sons in September, 1796, to George Sharp, who in 1798 sold it to John Kinzie, their half-brother.

Mrs. Ann Forsyth had been twice married before her union with Forsyth: first, to William Haliburton, a chaplain in the British army, and second to John McKenzie. A daughter by the first marriage, Alice Haliburton, born Jan. 22, 1758, married Sampson Fleming at Detroit. They moved to New York after the Revolution, where Mrs. Fleming married (second) Nicholas Low. The child of Mrs. Forsyth's second marriage was a son, John, who early in his career shortened his name to the form Kenzie or Kinzie; for his career see *ante*, 306. Information adapted from genealogical notes on the Forsyth, Kinzie, and Little families compiled by C. M. Burton, ms. in Burton Hist. Coll.

34 James Allan was a member of the British naval establishment at Detroit in 1783. Ten years later he petitioned for a grant of land on the east side of La Pêche River. It was granted, and in 1799 Allan, then at Amherstburg, proposed to transfer 12,000 acres on Peach River to William Robertson, in payment of debts due the latter. He was living in Upper Canada as a British subject as late as 1815, when his evidence was quoted by the British authorities in a dispute over the retention by the United States of Bois Blanc Island. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*; letter of Allan to Robertson, Sept. 2, 1799, in Burton Hist. Coll.

35 George Jacob was a partner in trade of Daniel McKillip. Jacob remained a British subject and during the War of 1812 was captain of a dragoon company of Kent County militia. About the year 1788 he married Mary Archange Chêne dit Labutte. They had several children born and baptized at Sandwich in the years 1789-99, and a daughter, Felicity, baptized at the River Thames, Feb. 6, 1801. She later became the wife of Alexander McKee, son of Thomas McKee and Therese Askin. George Jacob died Dec. 24, 1833, aged seventy-one years, and was buried in St. John's churchyard, Sandwich. See Denissen, *op. cit.*, *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*, and burial inscriptions in St. John's churchyard.

36 James May was a native of Birmingham, England, who at the age of twenty-two came to Detroit in 1778. He was a man of energy and ability, and held various positions of public trust. He was the first chief justice of the Court of Common Pleas, justice of the peace, marshal of Michigan Territory, and colonel of territorial militia. He married (first) Rose St. Cosme, daughter of Pierre Laurence St. Cosme and Catherine Lootman dit Barrois. She was buried at Detroit, July 18, 1797, and May married (second) Margaret Descomps dit Labadie. Three daughters were born of the first union and ten sons and daughters of the second. James May died at Detroit, Jan. 19, 1829. See Denissen, *op. cit.*, and sketch in *Proc. of Land Board of Detroit*, 205.

37 Alexander Saunders was engaged in trade at Mackinac as early as 1780 when he signed a petition to General Haldimand praying for equal treatment in the matter of shipping privileges on the lakes. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XX, 210.

38 Henry Ford was a commander in the British naval establishment on the upper lakes in the post-Revolutionary period. On May 20, 1793, he sold to David Cowan a tract of land, four acres by fifty, on the south side of Detroit River opposite Bois Blanc Island for the sum of \$100. Information adapted from *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XII,