

land of Pierre Champagne⁵⁵ at Grand Marais,⁵⁶ is null and void; and he prohibits and forbids any action on the part of the adjudicator to take possession of the said land, unless the said Jonathan Schieffelin pays the claims of the said Tremblay heirs⁵⁷ upon the said land for their share in the estate of their late father and mother, concerning which the said Joseph Serré has requested legal action hereby granted to him, and signed at Detroit the day and year above mentioned.

In presence of William Monforton, Notary Public
Francis Pepin⁵⁸
Martin Nadeau⁵⁹

Endorsed: [by John Askin] Mr. Schieffelin

from Congress a grant of some 20,000,000 acres of land, comprising, roughly, most of the present lower peninsula of Michigan. Members of Congress were offered large bribes by the eastern agents of the group, who undertook to pilot the grant through Congress, but upon exposure by a South Carolina member of the House, the scheme was defeated. Schieffelin was living as late as the summer of 1827. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*; C. M. Burton (ed.), *Journal of the Board of Trustees 1802-1805* (Detroit, 1922), *passim*; C. M. Burton, *History of Detroit 1780-1850* (Detroit, 1917), 23-35, 45-46; *One Hundred Years of Business Life, 1794-1894: W. H. Schieffelin and Co., New York*.

⁵⁵ The Champagnes (Champaignes) of Detroit were descendants of Pierre Huyet of the province of Champagne, France. His son, Etienne Huyet, born at Charleville in Champagne, learned the shoemaking trade and migrated to Canada, where on June 8, 1718, he married at Montreal Barbara Fortier *dit* La Fortune, daughter of Stephen Fortier and Margaret Lauson. Their son, Pierre Huyet *dit* Champagne, was born at L'Ange Gardien, June 22, 1733. On June 9, 1760, he married at Detroit Regina Christina Tremblay, daughter of Augustin Tremblay and Mary Judith La Forest. The couple lived on a farm at Fox Creek in Grosse Pointe, where all but two of their twelve children were born. Pierre Huyet was buried at Detroit, Oct. 30, 1805. See Denissen, *op. cit.*

⁵⁶ The Grand Marais of Detroit in the French period was that portion of the settlement lying opposite the upper end of Belle Isle, where the river makes its exit from Lake St. Clair.

⁵⁷ This was evidently a dispute between relatives. In the summer of 1750 three Tremblay brothers, Pierre, Augustin, and Ambrose, came to Detroit from Lower Canada. All settled in the Grosse Pointe region and all reared large families. Pierre Champagne was the son-in-law of Augustin Tremblay, having married his daughter, Regina Christina. Her parents were living at the time of this controversy, but Ambrose Tremblay and his wife were both dead, and the heirs here referred to were evidently their children, and hence first cousins of Champagne's wife.

⁵⁸ There were members of the Pepin family at Detroit from about the time of the Revolution onward, but we have not identified the family connection of Francis. In the Askin Papers he is characterized as a "trader." In November, 1786, he obtained from the Potawatomi Indians a grant forty by one hundred arpents in extent lying between Sand Creek and Stony Creek in modern Monroe County. This he sub-