

Endorsed: London Jan^y 31st 1793 M^r W^m Robertson to
Jn^o Askin Answ^d y^e 26^h June recv^d June 10th

SCHEME FOR CONDUCTING MAUMEE AND WABASH TRADE

Sir With the Utmost Submission and defferance to your Excellencys better Judgment I beg leave to Sugest a Mode of Carrying on the Indian Trade to the Westward by Means that would in the first Instance in a great measure Secure the Lives & property of the Traders, in the Second procure a greater Consumption of Goods & larger remittances in Furrs, & in the third furnish the Indians with what Commodities they might want on the Frontiers and by that Means prevent their retiring from the best Hunting Grounds & l[e]aving that part of the Country free & oppen to the Encrochments of their Enimies.

That the Fidelity & good Character of Each person desirious to Trade with the Indians beyond the foot of the rapids be Assertained to the Satisfaction of the Commanding officer Coll. M^cKee & such Others as they may think Worthy of Trust After which such Person to be Admitted as a Joint Partner in all the Indian Trade carried on beyond the Afors^d Place he conforming to the regulations made for that Purpose which regulations before Carried Into Execution to be Transmitted to you by the Commanding officer of this Post for your Excellency's Approbation.

That all the Trade of that Country should be Carried on by a Company to consist of Persons of the forgoing

reached Detroit in June, 1793, and remained a resident here until the American advent, when he signified his desire to continue a British subject, and removed to the south side of the river. At Sandwich he was engaged in trade for many years and apparently attained a considerable degree of prosperity. For a number of years he was in partnership with Robert Grant under the firm name, Innis and Grant. In the spring of 1812, Innis and McGregor were owners of an eighty-ton vessel at Sandwich, the *Thames*. In the War of 1812 Innis served as quartermaster of the First Regiment of Essex Militia, of which Matthew Elliot was colonel, being present at the battles of Mongaugon, Brownstown, surrender of Detroit, Frenchtown, and River Raisin. Innis married Margaret, daughter of Matthew Donovan, schoolmaster at Detroit. A sister of Margaret Donovan became the wife of Matthew Elliot. Information adapted from *Mich. Pio. Colls., passim*; *Officers of British Forces in Canada During the War of 1812-15*, 34, 89; and mss. in Burton Hist. Coll.