

upwards, and in Case of any such Sales, give us the most Timely Notice that the Necessary Surveys thereof may be made, acquainting us at same time how and in what manner we are to draw for such supplies of Money as we may want for Defraying the Charges of Surveys &c. The half nearest to Lake Erie of said Tract is by far the most valuable herewith You have copies of the deeds for the several Tracts belonging to the Joint Concern viz.

- N^o 1 for a Tract Granted to P M^cNeff
- 2 for a Tract granted to J Askwith
- 3 for a Tract granted to Israel Ruland
- 4 for a Tract a a a a granted to Israel Ruland
- 5 for a Tract o o o o o o o o o granted to M^cNiff & Askwith
- 6 for a Tract granted to J Askin
- 7 for a Tract granted to ditto

9th AUGUST¹⁴

In addition to what we have already Wrote we beg leave to observe to you that the Prohibitory Acts of Congress Respecting Individuals obtaining Grants of Land from the Indians extends only to such as might make Actual purchases & the Indians Regular Sales but no proviso made against the Indians making free gifts of their own property to whom they please the Latter is the situation of all our Claims being on Deeds of gift & absolutely meant so by the Indians to shew you the value of Land property in the vicinity of our Claims we on this day have received the News from Detroit that Madam Baby has sold all her Lands on the American side of the River for 4/ N. York per acre the whole amounting to 41,400 pounds Col. Allen¹⁵ of Grand

¹⁴ The remaining portion of the document is written in pencil; that which precedes is in ink.

¹⁵ Colonel Ebenezer Allen, who was born in Northampton, Mass., Oct. 17, 1743, and passed his mature life in Vermont. He grew up at New Marlboro, Mass., where, in 1762, he married a Miss Richards. In 1768 he removed to Bennington, Vt., and in 1771 to Poultney. He served with considerable distinction in the Revolution, in which he won his title of colonel. In 1779 he and a group of associates were granted a township of land in Rutland County, and soon after he began the settlement of what later became the town of Grand Isle. In 1792 Colonel Allen made an extended journey into the Northwest, returning enthusiastic over the idea of locating in that region. In the autumn of 1795 he was one of the associates with Askin and others who under-