

New York Currency, for each years service, and shall and will during the said term, find and provide, for the said Robert Nichol, good and sufficient diet, washing, and lodging. IN TESTIMONY whereof, the said parties have to these presents, interchangeably, set their hands and affixed their Seals, at Detroit aforesaid, in the Western District, and Province of Upper Canada, the day, month and year first above written.

Robt Nichol (L. S.)

John Askin (L. S.)

SIGNED sealed and delivered in the presence of.

Alexis Maisonneville

W. Roe

Endorsed: Detroit 18th Sep. '95 Robert Nichols to John Askin Esq^r

Articles of Clerkship for 3 years.

PARTNERSHIP FOR PURCHASE OF MICHIGAN PENINSULA²¹

Articles of Agreement entered into & concluded at Detroit this Twenty-Sixth day of September in the year of Our Lord, one Thousand and Seven Hundred & Ninety five For the purpose of obtaining the Pre-emption right from the United States of America and extinguishing the right of the Native Indians to a certain Territory herein after defined between Ebenezer Allen and Charles Whitney of the State of Vermont, and Robert Randall of the City of Philadelphia on the one part, and John Askin, Jonathan Schieffelin, William Robertson, John Askin Junior, David Robertson, Robert Innis & Richard Pattinson all of Detroit on the other part.

The said Territory is Situated on the Lakes Erie, Huron and Michigan, & Bounded by a Line commencing at the

²¹ A comprehensive account of this enterprise, written by C. M. Burton, is contained in *The Inlander* (Ann Arbor), III, 209-14. The effort of the eastern promoters, Randall and Whitney, to purchase the support of members of Congress by awarding them shares in the syndicate in return for votes, roused a scandal of large dimensions, which occupied the attention of Congress almost exclusively from Dec. 28, 1795 to Jan. 13, 1796.