

said land forever, with power for its disposal, subject to the charges of *cens et rentes*, seigniorial rights and customary service, the said land being holden from the domain of the King, and a further charge of one hundred minots of wheat and sixty minots of corn which have been paid in full, and from which the said St. André and his wife give the said purchasers unconditional release, wherefore the said St. André has assigned to the said Benjamin Chaput, his heirs and assigns, all his rights of ownership, real or pretended, upon the said land, that the said purchasers may enter into good and peaceable possession and seizin hereby, and that it may belong to them by virtue of these presents, irrevocably substituting for that purpose the bearer hereof in his place, in giving to them his power hereby, &c., promising &c., obliging, &c., renouncing &c. Duly executed at Detroit, in the house of the said St. André, by us, the notary undersigned, on the afternoon of July the ninth, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four, in the presence of Jacques Godfroy,⁵⁵ resident of Detroit, and of Jean La Rue,⁵⁶ living on the south

⁵⁵ The Godfroy family is one of ancient and wide renown in France. Jacques Godfroy, the first American ancestor of the person mentioned here, was born in a suburb of Rouen in 1653 and married at Three Rivers, Canada, June 30, 1683, Jane Brunet, daughter of Pierre Brunet and Mary Catherine Cottin. Their son, Jacques Godfroy de Mauboeuf, born at Three Rivers, July 17, 1684, about the year 1710, in partnership with Paul Chevalier and Joseph Senecal began to trade with Detroit. Godfroy married, about the year 1714, Mary St. Onge *dît* Chêne, a native of Montreal, and about the year 1719 removed his family to Detroit, where his son Jacques was born, Jan. 6, 1722. Jacques married (first) Frances L'Eveille, an Indian woman, who died before 1758. He then married (second) Louisa Clotilda Chapoton, daughter of Jean Chapoton and Mary Magdelene Estève. She was buried at Detroit, Sept. 18, 1762. Because of his services as interpreter to the Indians, Godfroy secured as wife the favorite daughter of a Miami chief. This occurred after the death of Louisa Chapoton, and it is uncertain whether the union was regarded as a legal marriage. Three children were born of the union with Louisa Chapoton. Godfroy was a trader and an officer in the militia. During the siege of 1763 he espoused the cause of the savages and for this (having previously taken an oath of allegiance to the British government) he was seized and sentenced to be hung for treason. He was pardoned by Colonel John Bradstreet, however, on condition that he conduct Captain Thomas Morris to the Illinois country. He faithfully discharged this duty, and was praised by Morris for his fidelity. Godfroy was buried at Detroit, June 29, 1795. His relatives were many and his family connections widespread. See Denissen, *op. cit.*, and R. G. Thwaites (ed.), *Early Western Travels*, I, 302.

⁵⁶ Jean La Rue (Larue) *dît* Bayonne, was a native of the diocese of Axe in Lower Guyenne, France. He married at Detroit, Aug. 25, 1770, Elizabeth Bineau, who was born here May 8, 1754, daughter of Louis Bineau and Magdelene Lereau. They had two daughters: Isabella, born at Detroit, March 23, 1772, and Mary Catherine, born at Sandwich, March 10, 1774. Information adapted from Denissen, *op. cit.*