

Vessell being drove back by a hard gale of wind when in sight of this place, he is at Detroit at School. I have no news to acquaint you with from this quarter. Your friend M^r Lyons, M^r Burggy⁷ & M^r Ainse⁸ is the only remains of those which lived here in your time. You would be Surprized to see how this place grows, there is near one hundred houses in the Subarbs, & people are now building tolerable good ones.

which proved unsuccessful on the whole, and in which he incurred a debt to his father which he never succeeded in discharging. He engaged with the latter in certain land speculations, and in this connection went to Greenville in 1795 to dissuade the Indians from concluding a treaty with General Wayne without including in it certain restrictions vital to the success of the speculators. By General Wayne he was promptly arrested and secluded, however, until the negotiations were concluded. On reaching Detroit he rendered a report of his mission to Colonel England, which is now preserved in the Burton Hist. Coll. In 1801 Askin was appointed by Governor Hunter, collector of customs at Sandwich, which office he held until 1807 when he was appointed interpreter in the Indian Department and stationed at St. Joseph Island. At the opening of war in 1812 he led the Ottawa and Chippewa contingent of the British force which captured Mackinac, and here he continued to serve throughout the war, withdrawing with the garrison to Drummond Island in 1815. Here he was at least until 1816, when a letter to his parents expresses the hope of removal to Amherstburg. He died at Amherstburg about the beginning of 1820; the notice of his death (undated) appeared in the *Detroit Gazette* of Jan. 7, 1820.

Askin married at Detroit, Oct. 21, 1791, Mary Madelaine Peltier, member of an old Detroit family, who died at Amherstburg on June 17, 1878. Her father, Jacques Peltier, born, Jan. 16, 1747, in old age related his recollections of the Pontiac siege of 1763, and this narrative was utilized by Francis Parkman. Prior to Askin's marriage with Madelaine Peltier he became the father of a son by a woman living in the Indian country, who may have been a white captive, but whose identity is unrecorded. This son, Jean B. or "Johnny," was baptized at Detroit a few weeks after the father's marriage, and was reared to manhood largely by his grandfather, John Askin. He went with his father to St. Joseph, where in 1810 he engaged to go west in the fur trade, and spent one winter on the St. Croix River and a second in the Lac du Flambeau region of northern Wisconsin. In the summer of 1812 he led a band of Indians to take part in the campaign at Detroit, arriving, however, after Hull's surrender. He subsequently married a Miss Van Allen and became one of the early settlers of London, Ont., where he served as first clerk of the court (in the early thirties), and where he died, Nov. 15, 1869. Information adapted from the Askin Papers, *passim*, and other ms. data in the Burton Hist. Coll.; from the Askin Papers in the Dominion Archives in Ottawa; and from data supplied by Miss Amelia Harris of London, Ont.

7 Christian Berczy, a trader of Mackinac. A memorial of Captain Samuel Robertson to Governor Haldimand, published in the *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XI, 328-30, incidentally discloses that Berczy died between September, 1781, and December, 1782. Concerning his career we have learned little.

8 Joseph Louis Ainse, born May 1, 1744, whose parentage is noted *ante*, 50-51. He was one of the informers against Major Rogers in 1766, and thereafter served as interpreter at Mackinac for many years. In 1786, he undertook an extensive journey among the tribes of the upper Mississippi country, going as the agent of Sir John Johnson to restore peace between the warring tribes in the interest of the Indian trade. He was later accused of peculations in connection with the discharge of this mission, and a lengthy trial ensued, the record of which is printed in *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XI, 491 ff.