

to Such a degree, that it was with difficulty that the Sherriif could procure a Jury of real Citizens to attend the last Sessions, or Ballifs to do their duty. Some Scores (It is Said Some hundreds) of the Inhabitants having signed the Said circulating papers²³ declaring themselves British Subjects Which gives us reason to fear, that little or no dependance can be put in the Militia of the County If called upon. This being truly the State of the Country, WE feel the greatest anxiety for its Safety. We therefore conceive it our duty to transmit you every part of our apprehensions, and the causes exciting them, hoping that you will See the propriety of vesting Sufficient power in the Commander in Chief now here, or the commanding-Officer, for the time being to take Such Steps as may check the progress of the present prevailing faction, and prevent a further corruption of the Inhabitants, we by experience finding it out of the power of the civil authority at present to do it

(Signed)	James Abbott Senior ²⁴	} Esq ^{rs}
	James May	
	Nathan Williams ²⁵	
	Charles F Girardin ²⁶	
	Joseph Voyer	
	Patrick M ^c Niff	
	Herman Eberts ²⁷	
	John Dodemead	
	Joncaire chabert ²⁸	
	Antoine Beaubien ²⁹	
	Robert Abbott	
	Daniel Sawyer ³⁰	

²³ Apparently the papers referred to were identical with the documents published in *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, VIII, 410-11.

²⁴ For a sketch of the career of James Abbott, see *B. H. R.*, I, 304.

²⁵ For a sketch of the career of Nathan Williams, see *ibid.*, 195.

²⁶ For a sketch of the career of Charles Francis Girardin, see *ibid.*, 387.

²⁷ For a sketch of the career of Herman Eberts, see *ibid.*, 593.

²⁸ Francis Chabert was a son of Daniel de Joncaire de Chabert, who is noted *ante*, 101. He was born in 1757, probably in Montreal. He came with his parents to Detroit, served as an officer of militia under Governor Hamilton at Vincennes, and was one of the Detroiters whom Clark released upon taking an oath of neutrality. On April 10, 1780, he married Mary Josette Chêne, daughter of Isidore Chêne and Therese Becquet, and eleven children were born to them in the years 1781-1808. Chabert was appointed lieutenant colonel of militia soon after the American sovereignty was established in Detroit. A tract of land which Chabert claimed (having been originally given by the Potawatomi to Isidore Chêne