

Wayne County ss

Personally appeared before me Mathew Ernest³¹ Esquire, one of the Justices for Keeping the peace in the County aforesaid—Patrick M^cNiff, Esquire, who being duly sworn upon the holy Evangelist of almighty God, declares, that the foregoing Instrument beginning with “WE”, and ending with “It” is truly a copy of the petition transmitted to Colonel Sargent³² thro’ the commander in chief in July 1797 by the Several Persons therein named, of which number himself was one.

Sworn before me at Detroit, the 13^h March 1797

(Signed) Mathew Ernest J. P. W. C. (L. S.)

Endorsed: Detroit July 12^h 1797 a Memorial or Petition from Several Magistrates &^{ca} of Detroit to Colonel Sargent. Copy

and by the latter transferred to him), lying westward of the mouth of the Rouge, occasioned a notable legal contest which vexed the courts for many years about the opening of the present century. Chabert was buried in Detroit, Nov. 24, 1813. Information adapted from *Burton Hist. Coll. Leaflet*, VI, 1-16, and Denissen, *op. cit.* An extensive account of the careers of Chabert's father and grandfather is in Severance, *Old Frontier of France*.

29 For an account of the Beaubien line, one of the most numerous and notable of the French families of early Detroit, see Burton, *City of Detroit, 1701-1922*, II, 1353-55. The person here noted was probably Louis Antoine Beaubien, son of Jean Baptiste Beaubien and Marie Lootman dit Barrois. He was born in Detroit, July 6, 1754; on Feb. 2, 1784, he married Catherine Lootman dit Barrois, who was born in Vincennes in 1767. She was buried, July 1, 1785. Louis Antoine Beaubien was buried, March 24, 1836.

30 Daniel Sawyer apparently came to Detroit shortly after the American occupation and remained here but a short time. A letter of Tarleton Bates of Pittsburgh to Frederick Bates in Detroit, March 21, 1798, narrates the recent drowning in the Ohio River below Pittsburgh of Mr. Sawyer, “lately from Detroit.” See photostat copy in B. H. Coll.

31 Matthew Ernest served as a private in the Fifth New York Regiment from 1779 to January, 1781. In October, 1786, he became a lieutenant in the U. S. artillery, and from June to November, 1790, served as battalion paymaster. He resigned from the service in 1791. His doings in the next few years are unknown to us, but in 1797 he engaged as partner with General John Wilkins of Pittsburgh and James Henry (for whom see *post*, 305), in establishing a store and tanyard in Detroit, of which Henry was local manager; and in 1799 he was appointed collector of the port of Detroit. During the following years, he served also as justice of the peace and county treasurer, and in 1803 was appointed by Governor Harrison, quartermaster general of militia of Indiana Territory with the rank of lieutenant colonel. He had a farm between modern Junction and McKinstry avenues, fronting seven arpents on the river and forty arpents in depth. This was confirmed to him in 1807 as Private Claim 30. In 1805 Ernest defaulted in his accounts as collector, the shortage of funds being upwards of \$7500. His sureties were George Meldrum and James Henry, who were sued by the United States government to compel payment of the money defaulted. Information adapted from Francis B. Heitman, *Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army from Its Organization, September 29, 1789 to March 2, 1903* (Washington, 1903); and mss. in B. H. Coll., *passim*.

32 Winthrop Sargent, born in Gloucester, Mass., in 1753, served in the Revolution as a captain of artillery; he subsequently became connected with the Ohio Company and was appointed by Congress surveyor of the Northwest Territory. From 1798 to 1801 he was