

and this includes Hunot's debt of 600 piastres. Independently of the draft that I gave Mr. Todd, I furnished him with 450 piastres for a boat [torn] and Mr. Blakeley³² was present at the bargain made with that gentleman. I also gave Mr. McNeal 77½ piastres at Greenville, according to your advice, and have a receipt, and of which I gave you information in my former letter, as well as 15 piastres given to your son.

These, Sir, are the amounts for which you may give me credit. The confidence I had in you the first time I ever had the pleasure of doing business with you is the same today. It can never diminish. From what I have heard, I should have thought that the price of peltries would have gone higher. But never mind. You will be so good as to send me an account of the balance and as soon as I have the money I will hand you the amount.

Give yourself no concern about the London sales nor of the time they occurred. I am quite confident that the sum you mention to me is the amount my peltries have brought.

During the past two years I have sold considerable land but the scarcity of the needful is the reason why I have failed to collect in almost all the payments I should have received. I owe nothing to anyone except in Detroit. My ambition has ever been to discharge my debts as soon as it was in my power, and my health, although weak yet, permits me to hope that I shall soon set out on a journey to the Mississippi to collect money, and by that means place myself in a position to give you proof of my willingness to pay. For cash accounts due me I have been obliged to take whiskey in payment, and now I must work more to change it into money. No one could tell you of all this better than Mr. Dubois.³³

³² Apparently Josiah Bleakley of Mackinac, for whom see *post*, 569.

³³ Toussaint Dubois belonged to one of the oldest families of Vincennes, and during the Indiana territorial period was one of the city's prominent residents. He was engaged in trade, and references among the Askin papers indicate that he had frequent dealings in Detroit. He enjoyed the confidence of Governor Harrison, who utilized his knowledge of Indian life by giving him charge of his force of scouts and spies in the Tippecanoe campaign. In 1814 he was offered the appointment of Indian agent, which he declined on the ground of his illiteracy. He was drowned while attempting to ford the Little Wabash River near Vincennes, March 11, 1816. Dubois was twice married, first to Jeanette Bonneau, and