

INDEBTEDNESS OF CLAMORGAN, LOISEL AND Co.⁴⁴Michilimackinac 22^d June 1799John Askin Esq^r Detroit

Sir being informed that its probable Mr Todd is at your place, I therefore take the liberty of troubling you with the enclosed letters for him. if you do not expect him soon at your place, be so good and enclose these letters for him to the care of Mr Robert Hamilton of Queenston. I reached here the 16 ins^t from S'Louis which place I only left the 20th Ult^o and am sorry my mission to that Country on the affairs of Mr Todd have been very unsuccessful having Not received a Single Sous for him from the unfortunate concern of Clamorgan⁴⁵ Loisel & C^o nor will there ever from all appearances, in future be a Single Cent had from them. Mr Meldrum and yourself it appears lay a claim against Mr Todd, for 2500 livres said to be recover'd by Mr A Todd's succession from Clamorgan Loisel & C^o in which claim you are most certainly taken the wrong steps. Clamorgan Loisel & C^o did receive such a Sum in account with a Mons^r Vallé, but they never paid that Sum to Mr Todd. they falsley gave credit for this Sum in Accounts with Mr Todd which they never have nor never did intend to pay. Mr Bleakley wrote Clamorgan on this

signified their intention to remain British subjects. At some time prior to 1808 he located in Amherstburg, where he had a wharf; in 1812 General Brock's plans for the military establishment of Upper Canada included, as one item, the buying of all cordage from Captain Mills in Amherstburg, in order to promote the growing of hemp in this region. Captain Mills served as a captain in the Second Essex Militia Regiment in the War of 1812, and was wounded in the Battle of Frenchtown (or Raisin River), Jan. 22, 1813. He died in Amherstburg, Dec. 10, 1813, aged fifty-two years. His monument in Christ churchyard describes him as "esteemed and regretted by all who knew him, being a worthy man and a zealous and loyal subject." Information from *Mich. Pio. Colls., passim*; mss. in B. H. Coll., *passim*; and tombstone in Christ churchyard in Amherstburg.

44 For further discussion of the subject of this letter, see *ante*, 177-78.

45 Jacques Clamorgan is supposed to have been a native of the West Indies. He came to St. Louis about the year 1780, where he engaged extensively in the Indian trade. He was the chief promoter of the company of Spanish traders which, in the middle nineties, sought to obtain a monopoly of the trade of the upper Mississippi and Missouri rivers. Its affairs did not prosper, and Clamorgan's management of them was sharply criticized. He enjoyed the favor of the Spanish authorities and was awarded vast grants of land in Missouri and Arkansas, which were not validated by the U. S. government. He was an early judge of the Court of Common Pleas in St. Louis under the American régime. About the year 1808, he went to Mexico and his subsequent career is unknown. See sketch in Houck, *Spanish Régime in Missouri*, II, 148-49. On the activities of the Commercial Company for the Discovery of the Nations of the Upper Missouri, of which Clamorgan was the leader, see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, XXII, 14 ff.