

have seen Billiet,⁸² he wishes me to ask if you have received any Dollars from Paschal Rheem⁸³ (I think *nine*) or *eleven* for y^e house 2 toises & half of Stone, 25 barrels of Lime, 4000 Bricks, Billiet will do the whole work furnishing him Self for £24, you finding him a man & cart to bring the materials from the Water side to the house. in looking over your letter of the 14th I thank you for your very great kindness in regard to the Harpsichord, but I am told it is a mere wreck, therefore as I have mention'd befor I wish it sold. In confidence my D^r Friend, suppose you hint'd to Commodore Grant about the Beef of last Winter, and as I am only a *Toy Doll*, as a physical man at *his* house, you can hint it to him, that my coming up *twice* deserves a *little*. may Heaven bless us all, and altho souer'd with the World at large; I am happy in so sincere a Friend, who can laugh at my *petty* misfortunes, and feel for my real ones.

I am with respects to M^{rs} A D^r Sir,

Your greatly obliged

W^m Harffy

Malden Thursday night Oct^r 17th 1799

PS. M^r Seabury of this place will take this with him, as he is going to M^r M^cIntosh's to assist at the Launch. he will bring a return

Addressed: Jn^o Askin Esq^r Merct Detroit Oct^r 18

Endorsed: Malden Oct^r 17^h, 1799 Doc^r Harffy to Jn^o Askin Answ^d 20th

died on Dec. 4, 1828. An interesting epitaph, supplied by a friend, concluded with these words (from Burns's epitaph on Gavin Hamilton):

"With such as he, where'er he be
May I be saved or damned."

Information compiled from mss. in B. H. Coll., and Buffalo Hist. Soc., *Pubs.*, *passim*.

82. The American founder of the line of Billet was Étienne Biguet *dit* Nobert, born in 1660 in the diocese of Avranches, France, who came to Canada and married in Champlain, Oct. 29, 1691, Dorothea Dubois, a native of Quebec. Their son, Jean Baptiste Biguet, was also called Billet, by which name his descendants were known. François Billet, our present subject, was a grandson of Jean Baptiste Biguet. He was born in Longueuil on Oct. 14, 1751, and married in Detroit, Sept. 28, 1778, Mary Teresa Robidou, daughter of Joseph Robidou and Mary Ann Leblanc. François Billet was a mason and lived on St. Joseph Street. He was buried in Sandwich, Aug. 19, 1812. He had numerous dealings with Askin and figures frequently in the Askin papers. He had six children, all born in Detroit in the period, 1779-94. See Denissen, *op. cit.*

83. For the line of Réaume, see *B. H. R.*, I, 170. One of the sons of Hyacinthe Réaume, there mentioned, was Joseph Réaume, who was born in Detroit, Nov. 2, 1739, and married in Boucherville, July 7, 1766, Mary Charlotte Levasseur *dit* Carmel. Joseph brought his bride to Detroit that same year and settled on St. Joseph Street. He was buried here,