

arrival at Detroit I found the Estate in the Greatest confusion, no person interesting themselves for the Estate or Creditors, and it was with the consent of the Creditors at Detroit that M^{rs} Williams⁶¹ and M^{rs} Casety⁶² assign'd & made over the Estate to me in due form according to the custom of the country at that time there being no other mode of proceeding. a copy of this act I send you. on my leaving Detroit [I] did with the advice of the Creditors & my friends there appoint M^r Fraser my Attorney to act for me as long as I thought proper, and to revoke that power when I pleased. his procuring himself to be appointed Curator to the Estate afterwards⁶³ without the knowledge of the Creditors and particularly me must be considered and viewed by your Judges as done with intent to defraud and keep the Estate in his own Hands, and the appointment must be considered illegal, as the Estate was previously disposed of for the benefit of the Creditors, and put into my Hands. respecting Williams wishing to get the Estate into his Hands to dispute the demands of the Creditors, so many years admitted, is absurd. this plainly discovers his intent to defraud the Creditors, which your Judges must plainly see. M^{rs} Casetys assignment you will find I think registerd in the register at the same time as M^{rs} Williams. if M^r Williams would propose a certain sum and give security for the payment perhaps it would be as well, however his attempt to defraud us, ought to prevent him having any advantages. you mention that it would be best a number of the Creditors here would sign the power

during and after the Revolution, where he died about the year 1786. See *Mich. Pio. Colls., passim*.

61 Mary Cecilia Campau, widow of Thomas, and mother of John R. Williams. She was the daughter of Jacques Campau and Catherine Menard, and was born at the Northeast Coast of Detroit, Sept. 11, 1764. She was married to Thomas Williams (for whom see *B. H. R.*, I, 169) by Colonel Arent S. De Peyster on May 7, 1781. Williams died, Nov. 30, 1785, and on May 1, 1790, Mary Cecilia Campau married (second) in Sandwich, Jacques Lauzon, who was born at the Northeast Coast of Detroit, Dec. 13, 1760. They had eight children, born in the years 1791-1803. Mary Cecilia Campau was buried in Detroit on June 24, 1805. See Denissen, *op. cit.*

62 For the career of Mrs. Casety, née Therese Baby, see *B. H. R.*, I, 185.

63 There was no regular court in Detroit prior to the coming of Judge William Dummer Powell in 1789. For a careful account of the law and practice in Detroit with respect to the administration of estates in this period, see Riddell, *Michigan under British Rule, passim*, especially chap. x.