

REAL ESTATE CONDITIONS IN DETROIT

July 5th 1806

My Dear Sir The day before yesterday the *Nancy* passed from Michilimacina^c & I yesterday went to Sandwich when with the greatest satisfaction on your and your Houses account I learn that M^r Dickson had done very well & much more so than any other Trader in that Quarter I think you have had a lucky escape, & let his success be what it may this last Winter I dread his Trade being much too extensive to wind up well if continued.

My Son Charles is gone to York to endeavour to take up still more of my Deeds there which has been detained more on Account of the want of Money to pay for the Deeds than any other Cause for money is more scarce now on both sides of the River than I have ever known it.

I hear the Fleet is arrived & I hope in it Our Worthy Friend M^r Todd in better Health than when he left this.

The Four Houses belonging separately to M^r Todd & you are in a Street according to the New Plann of the Town. those who purchased have not nor are not able to pay a penny one excepted. I believe they are willing to give them up & the governor also [is] willing to give larger Lotts in good situations & put up the Buildings again in lieu thereof, so as to remove them out of the Street.

M^r Brush is gone some time ago into the States in Order to sell some Lands he has there on his return if he succeeds, or he thinks now if he does not he will make payment for the Orchard.

I was mistaken respecting what I wrote you of a Law having passed so favorable to Claimants of Land on the other side it had only passed the Lower House and would (as the governor says) [have passed] the Senate had the Commissioners at Detroit made their report before Congress broke up. The Governor who I believe a very Worthy

⁵⁸ The Guys were long prominent merchants of Montreal and active in the western fur trade. Pierre Guy (1738-1812) was colonel of the Second Battalion, Montreal militia, and a member of the grand jury which indicted Governor Henry Hamilton and Philip Dejean of Detroit in 1778. He had a son, Joseph, born, March 25, 1775, who may have been the individual here noted. Data supplied by Pierre-Georges Roy, archivist of Quebec, in letter of Sept. 5, 1928. See also, Tanguay, *op. cit.*