

hensive that I would whip him on his arrival) I have sent M^r Maclosky²² for him, and have to request that you will have the goodness to use your influence in persuading him to return to his duty and to behave himself better in future in that case I will pledge myself not to lay the wait of my finger on him.

I have one particular piece of advice to give you but must request you will not make it known we have a bad set of people about us and as I have been informed means of [have]

22. James McCloskey (McClosky) is listed among the residents of Detroit in 1806, in which year he appears to have been acting as deputy marshall of Michigan Territory. He was a surveyor, and in November, 1808, at the instance of Governor Hull and Judge Withereil, he drafted a new plan for the city, which the officials noted vainly sought to have adopted. Farmer, *Hist. of Detroit*, 29. On Sept. 14, 1810, an act was passed providing for the election in each district of the territory of a council of five members in which varied and extensive powers over poor relief, taxation, road maintenance, etc., were vested. McCloskey was one of the five councilors elected for the Detroit district in October, 1810, and he was still serving in this capacity in 1812. *Ibid.*, 95.

Whether the James McCloskey thus far noted was identical with the later prominent Detroit of the same name whose record follows herewith, we are inclined to doubt. James McCloskey of Maryland was commissioned captain and assistant deputy quartermaster general in the U. S. army on June 24, 1813, and honorably discharged on June 15, 1815. Heitman, *Reg. U. S. A.* Most of his service was evidently performed in the Detroit area, for numerous manuscripts in the B. H. Coll. disclose his presence and activities here during much of the years 1814 and 1815. He remained in Detroit, and as late as Feb. 19, 1816, signed as A. D. Q. M. G. a letter to Solomon Sibley directing suit to be instituted for the recovery of property belonging to the U. S. government. This same year (on July 30) James May chose McCloskey as an arbitrator in a suit to which he was a party, although in a letter of Sept. 10, 1810, May had described McCloskey as a dishonest debtor who was totally indifferent to meeting his obligations. From 1815 on, McCloskey held numerous offices of local public trust. In 1817, he was made superintendent of buildings (there was only one) of the University of Michigan; in August, 1818, he was appointed quartermaster general of the territory; in 1819 and 1820, he was elected to the board of trustees of Detroit (created by act of Oct. 24, 1815), serving as chairman of the board the first year. In 1821, he was defeated by Solomon Sibley in the election for delegate to Congress; and in 1823, he was one of half a dozen candidates in the election which was won by Father Gabriel Richard. In 1818, the Bank of Michigan was organized by a group of prominent citizens of Detroit, and McCloskey was made cashier. This office he held until 1825, when he was found to have defaulted in the sum of over \$10,000, and was summarily dismissed. An interesting account of his banking career, by Friend Palmer, is in *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XXX, 411 ff. Even before his appointment to the bank, the Comptroller General of the Treasury had caused McCloskey to be sued for a shortage of several thousand dollars in his accounts as deputy quartermaster general, but for some reason now unknown the prosecution was dropped.

On Sept. 11, 1815, McCloskey was married by James May to Susanne Godfroy, daughter of Gabriel Godfroy and Mary Therese Bondy, for whom see *B. H. R.*, I, 347. Six children were born to them in the years 1816-25; one daughter married Senator Isaac P. Christaincy, and another married John Alexander Askin, a grandson of John Askin. A letter of James May to his daughter, Ann Audrain, Jan. 11, 1829, states that McCloskey "died at Zanesville, State of Ohio, on his way home with the Winnebago Indians from Washington." Copy in ms. report of interview between C. M. Burton and Samuel W. May (son of James May), Nov. 25, 1926. Data derived from references cited; mss. in B. H. Coll., *passim*; and Farmer, *Hist. of Detroit*, *passim*. Brief sketches of McCloskey's life are in Burton, *City of Detroit, 1701-1922*, II, 1386, and in *Proc. of Land Board*, 161.