

ARBITRATION OF CLAIM AGAINST FRANCIS VIGO

Vincennes 28 march 1809

John Askin Esq^r

D^r S^r I received your Favors of 10th October last with the enclosures, and would have replied long since but for some circumstances. The principal one was that M^r DuBois acquainted me that he should return to Sandwich in the course of the Winter. another was that I had entered into an agreement for the Sale of one of your Tracts of land & another prevailing one was, that for your Interest I found it necessary to renew a disagreeable discussion with Vigo respecting his Note in your favor, with a view to draw him into an acknowledgment of the correctness of the adjustment I made with him; in the course of which, I have put the affair on a footing which I hope will be agreeable to you. It is agreed upon, if you concur, that M^r Meldrum, M^r Park, Jn^o M^oGregor and my Brother, or in the absence of either, such person as you and M^r DuBois shall agree, shall be examined respecting the custom of receiving and disposing of Peltry at the time Vigo's Parcel was in your management; and the Instructions you had. and that their certificate shall be laid before four men at this place, to be chosen by the Court, *who are to determine, according to the Statement or Certificate of those Gentlemen*, whether your claim is to be encreased or lessened. As you have all the Documents that will be necessary, except such as M^r DuBois will furnish from M^r Vigo, who has all the Accounts you sent me, I am confident the result will be more favorable to you than the former.

You need not precipitate the measure on the supposition that our Statue of limitation will affect the Note, for I have taken such steps in our discussion as will preclude that, if even it was his Intention to avail himself of it. There is no necessity now of sending you the Note, as you have withdrawn the suit. Had you informed me that your Court would not authorise the examination of witnesses out of the Dominions, I would have attended altho it would have been extremely inconvenient for me. On every occasion as well as that, I have always had your pecuniary situation in mind, and exerted myself to relieve you as much as in my