

& to avoid paying So much more. He has made up the money in part for the paymt of the orchard with interest & hopes to come over with the whole in a few days. his Disbursements amount to a good deal, but I told him They can not come in on Deduction of the debt for the orchard, but that I would pay him, & in order to enable me to pay that & the Surveyor, he must Urge the immediate payment of what John Harvey owes. this man has a fine new house in the Town of Detroit & other property, but money is now So very scarce, that those in good circumstances are as much pinched for ready [cash] as those in bad The mecanicks as the only people who have a Little. Mr Brush has obtained & delivered me a deed in you Mr McGills name for 4 Lots in Town of Detroit, containing 17,882 Square feet & for you Mr Todd 3 Lots in said place containing 16,882 square feet these are in Liue of the 2 small houses belonging to you Mr McGill & the one belonging to you Mr Todd I observed to Mr Brush that the proportion did not appear to me just, as you had only 1 house & Mr McGill 2 he gave me for answer that owing to [their] Situation in the Town Mr McGills 4 Lots were worth double y^r 3

I near 2 months ago brought before the Commissioners some of y^r claims at the Prairie Ronde & from the Spring well towards the River Rouge. at the time the Secretary Mr Atwater¹⁸ who is one of the Commissioners was absent, & I believe the other two though authorized did not Chose to decide untill his return, which has been for some time past, since which I heard that these Claims were rejected; I therefore went over the River & requested a meeting of the Commissioners, when I Said so much to them, that they

¹⁸ Reuben Atwater (Attwater) was born in Wallingford, Conn., May 11, 1768. His father, also named Reuben, was twice married and had several children. One daughter married General Andrew Hull, long prominent in Cheshire, and in the Connecticut Legislature, and another married Stephen R. Bradley, U. S. Senator from Vermont, 1790-94 and 1801-13. Reuben Atwater (our present subject) lived for some years in Wallingford. From 1808-14 he was secretary of Michigan Territory. At the time of his appointment he was described as a lawyer living in Vermont. In 1811-12 he served as acting governor during the absence from Michigan of Governor Hull. He also served as a commissioner of the Land Board until 1811, and collector of the port of Detroit, 1808-14. He married (first) Eliza Willard and (second) Sarah Lamb, daughter of General John Lamb. He had two children, Catherine and Clinton Edward. He died in February, 1831. Atwater Street in Detroit serves as his local monument. Data derived from sketches in *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, XXXVII, 449, and in *Proc. of Land Board of Detroit*, 204-205; and Francis Atwater (comp.), *Atwater History and Genealogy* (Meriden, Conn., 1901), 156-57, *et passim*.