

Expecting the pleasure of hearing from you by M^r DuBois and remain, D^r S^r

Your most Obed^t Serv^t
Laurent Bazadone²¹

John Askin Esq^r

Addressed: John Askin Esquire near Sandwich upper Canada Favor of M^r DuBois

Endorsed: Post Vincennes Jan^y 30^h 1810 Mons^r Bazadone to Jn^o Askin recv^d the 14^h Feb^r & wrote an Ans^w to M^r W^m Mackintosh same day

ARBITRATION OF CLAIM AGAINST FRANCIS VIGO

Sandwich 15th Feb^y 1810

M^r Askin proposes to M^r Vigo to refer all matters in difference between them to the Arbitration at this place, of 3 or 5 Gentlemen to be mutually appointed by the Parties. On his part he will have No objection to Mess^{rs} Ja^s Francis or B^{te} Baby, M^r Meldrum M^r Park, or M^r May. And further that if M^r Vigo will come to Sandwich or Detroit himself, on this business, in the course of next Spring or Summer, M^r Askin pledges his Word of honor that M^r Vigo shall not be sued by him either at Sandwich or Detroit. Each party giving security to the other for pay^t at this place of the sum which may be given ag^t him.

CHARGES AGAINST JOHN ASKIN JR.

York the 25th Feb^y 1810

My Dear Grand Papa I arrived here on the 20th Ins^t in 15 days from the Island of St^t Joseph, with dispatches for

²¹ Laurent Bazadone was described by Governor Harrison, in 1811, as an "Italian inn-keeper" of Vincennes. He was the recipient of 400 acres of land granted by Congress to heads of families residing there in 1783 or earlier. *Am. State Paps., Pub. Lands*, I, 290. He was engaged in trade in Vincennes for many years. In 1786, his store was plundered by George Rogers Clark, for which Bazadone a decade later levied upon Clark's property in the sum of \$20,000. *Ind. Mag. Hist.*, IV, 10-12. In 1788, one Bazadone, presumably Laurent, ransomed William Biggs from his Indian captors. In September, 1807, Bazadone was chosen president of a mass meeting of French settlers of Vincennes which adopted ringing resolutions of loyalty to the American government. *Ind. Hist. Colls.*, VII, 256-59. These resolutions Bazadone signed by making his mark; his letter here printed is written in an excellent hand, presumably that of some amanuensis. In the spring of 1811, Harrison prosecuted Bazadone for murdering an Indian in Vincennes, but the jury acquitted him "almost without deliberation." *Ibid.*, 515.