

some Indians [arrived] while we were here. we were still at Breakfast when a message came to us from M^{rs} Anderson⁴² begging that we would go and prevent the Indians from plundering her house. Major Chambers rode off immediately & I followed him as quick as I could. we found the Indians had taken a number of things, and were taking every thing valuable they could get hold of. they paid no attention to us what[ever] when we tried to make them desist. The Hurons were the first to break in & plunder this house and some of them were M^r Anderson's friends. from this house they went to several other houses and plundered them. old M^{rs} Knaggs⁴³ house was among others plundered, some Indians remained about Andersons most all day, taking and destroying things. They emptied some flour out in the yard, which they did not want, Col. Elliott⁴⁴ was with us at the time we first went to Andersons to prevent the Indians from plundering, but did not go with us. thinking that he would have more influence than Major C-s or myself I went and requested him to go once or twice, I think

⁴² At least two (possibly three) John Andersons figure in the history of Detroit and vicinity in the opening years of the century. References to their activities are numerous in both manuscript and printed records in the B. H. Coll., but information sufficient clearly to elucidate their respective careers is wanting. One of them, owner of the home here alluded to, was one of Monroe's foremost citizens in the first quarter of the century. According to Ross, *Hist. of Knaggs Family*, 29-30, he was born near Glasgow, Scotland, Aug. 20, 1771, and came in childhood with his parents to Montreal. The opening of the century found him engaged in trade on the Maumee, where, apparently, he married Elizabeth Knaggs, daughter of George Knaggs and Rachel Schley, for whom see *ante*, 119-20, who was born, Jan. 4, 1772. Some years later, Anderson located at Raisin River (modern Monroe), where he held, in the succeeding years, a number of offices of public trust. In 1805 he was appointed by Governor Hull, colonel of the Second Regiment of Michigan Militia, and in 1811-12 he was U. S. Marshal of the Territory. When in 1812, General Hull was setting out from Urbana on his march to Detroit, he sent to Anderson for transmission to the Indians of the region adjoining Monroe warnings of the vengeance that he would inflict upon them if they should exhibit any hostility to the American cause. The prominence which Anderson acquired in this connection made him the object of their own vengeance upon the downfall of Hull, and he hastily fled to Ohio, finding refuge for some months in Dayton. Meanwhile, his family was left behind in Monroe, and an interesting story is preserved of the heroism of Mrs. Anderson during the massacre of Jan. 22, 1813. Not long after this event, apparently, she found asylum in the home (now vacant) of Solomon Sibley in Detroit, and here, some time prior to December, 1813, Anderson joined her and was appointed by General Cass Sheriff of the Western District of Upper Canada, then conquered territory. After the war, he returned to Monroe, where he resided until his death, July 3, 1840. Whether the Anderson whose career is here described was the same John Anderson who was engaged in the Maumee trade as a partner of John Askin, we have been unable to determine. See *Mich. Pio. Colls.*, *passim*; Burton, *Proc. of Land Board of Detroit*, 183-84; and mss. in B. H. Coll., *passim*.

⁴³ Rachel Schley Knaggs, widow of George Knaggs, for whom see *ante*, 119-20.

⁴⁴ Colonel Matthew Elliot.