

indian interpreter, on the 16th, that the garrison at St. Joseph intended an immediate attack upon him. For fear there might be something in it, he called a meeting of the gentlemen on the island, at which it was arranged that one of them, Michael Douseman, should go over to St. Joseph to see what was going on. Leaving the island at about sunset, Douseman met the British ten or fifteen miles distant, was captured, paroled, and landed on the island at daybreak, with instructions to get the inhabitants out of the village to a point where they could be placed under guard. Later in the day the citizens were called upon to take the oath of allegiance to the British crown, and all did so except four men who were sent away with the soldiers. But Douseman did not take the oath nor was he sent away. Not only this, but later on he was allowed to go to Montreal, and in 1814, wishing to return to the island, he gave a bond signed by two prominent Montreal merchants, that he would go and return without going into any part of the United States. Michael Douseman was the agent of the Southwest Fur Company, of