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RELATING TO THE

FRENCH SETTLEMENTS

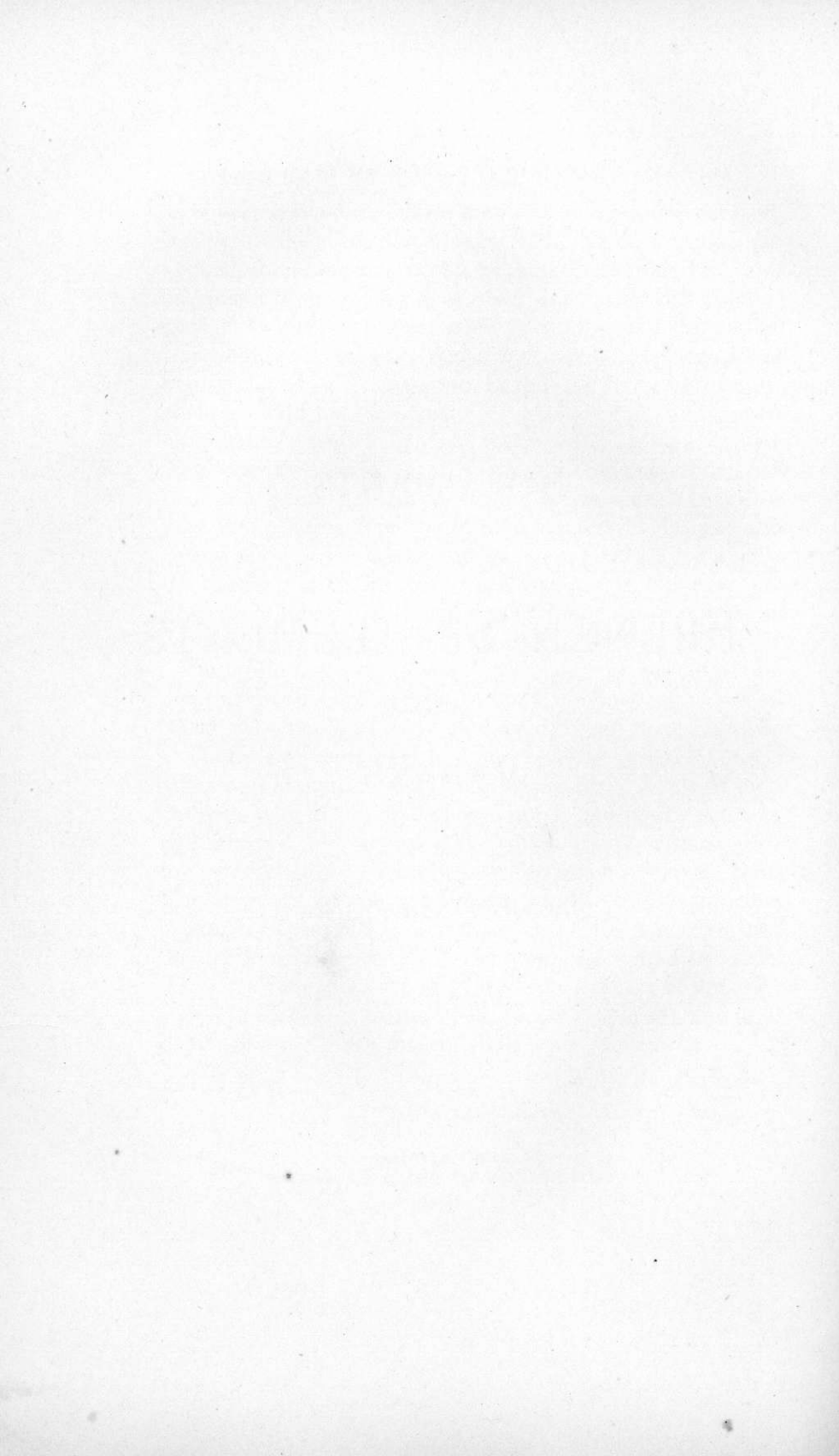
ON THE

WABASH.

BY

JACOB PIATT DUNN.

INDIANAPOLIS:  
THE BOWEN-MERRILL COMPANY.  
1894.



## INTRODUCTORY.

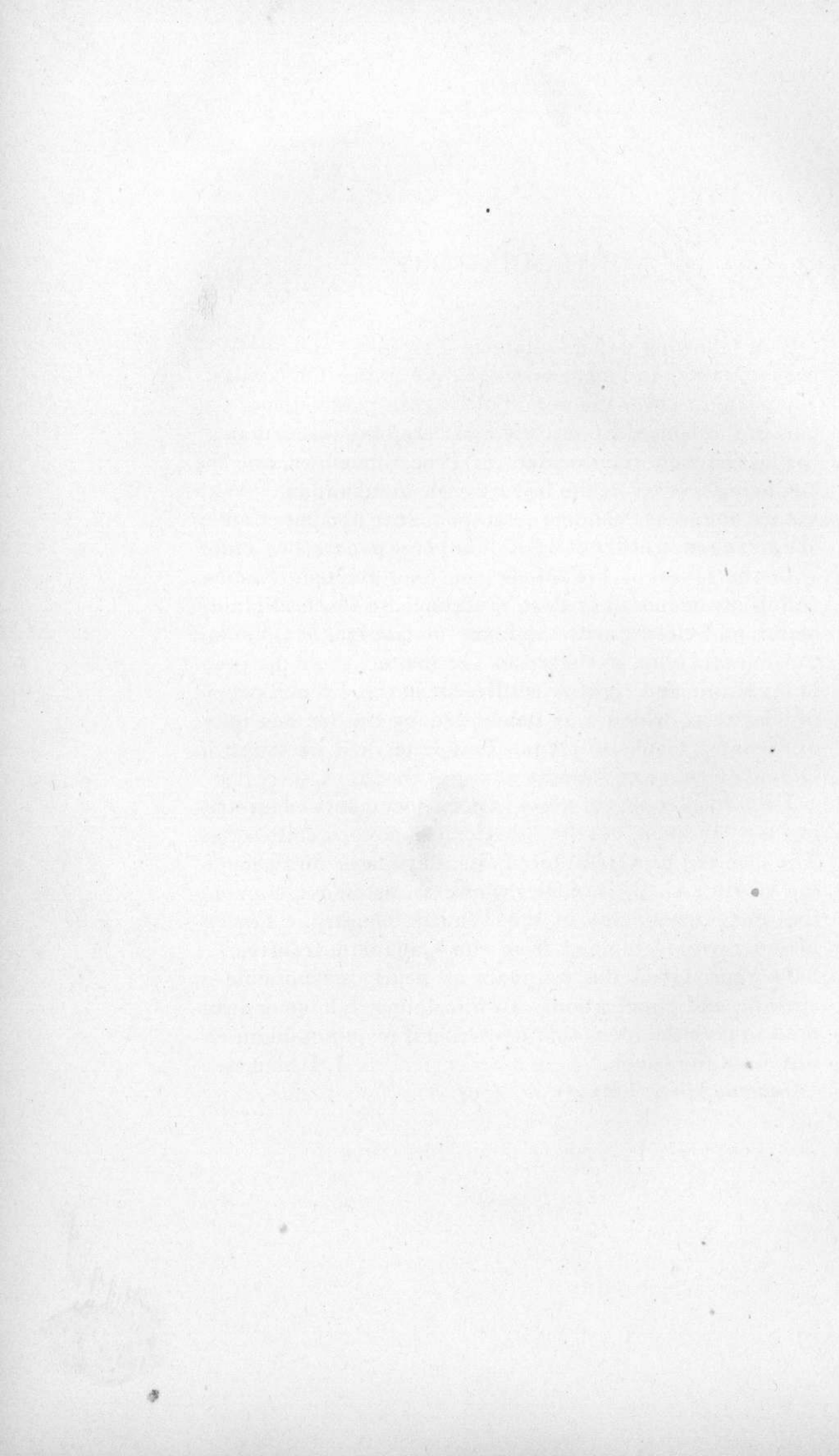
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THE following papers relate to Vincennes and the Wabash country, and more or less to the entire Ohio valley. They almost cover the period of English possession of this part of the United States, the first being the last orders of the last French commandant of Post Vincennes, and the last being a letter of the last English commandant. With the exception of the Gage correspondence and papers they are arranged in order of date. The Gage papers, beginning with the letter of Ste. Marie, or Jean Baptiste Racine, acting commandant of Post Vincennes, to General Haldimand, and closing with the letter of General Haldimand to General Gage, in regard to the matter, show the proof of legal title and right of settlement in the French people of Vincennes which was demanded by the famous letter of General Gage in 1773. This letter will be found in Dillon's History of Indiana at pages 86-88.

I obtained copies of these various documents when writing my "Indiana" for the American Commonwealth series. The farewell proclamation of St. Ange was furnished to me by Hon. C. B. Lasselle, whose ancestors were among the ancient residents of the Wabash country. The remainder were obtained from the Canadian archives. I have reproduced the originals as nearly as possible in spelling and punctuation. In translating I have endeavored to give the ideas that the writers, in my opinion, endeavored to convey.

J. P. DUNN.

*Indianapolis, January 22, 1894.*





## French Settlements on the Wabash.

### FAREWELL PROCLAMATION OF LOUIS ST. ANGE.

En vertu de l'ordre M<sup>r</sup> de Neyon Major Commandant au payes des jllinois de nommer une personne veller a la pollisse et maintenir le bon order entre les habittans de ce poste j ussi que des vollontaire et les sauvage—Nous Capitaine reformé etante sur le point de partir pour les jllinois pour nous randre au ordre de monsieur de Neyon nous avons nomme monsieur deroite de richarville, fesint les fonctions de Capitaine de millisse conjointement avec le Sr. le Caindre Soldat des troupe—leur premier soint doit etre de maintenir la bonne jntelligensse entre les Sauvage Empechaire le désordre au tems quil dépendra d eux lors qui leur sera porte des plaintes contre quelqun jl le vont attantion de faire un assamble des plus notables entre les habittans du lieu oux la chose ce dasidera a la pluralite des suffrage.

Messieur de roite de richarville et de Caindre ne peuve trop veller a ce que les habittans entretienne leur cloutures etante de l' interait du publique a ce que les animaux ne passe de ter au grains. jl sposeront autant quil pouvont au desordre qui n arive que trops souvant ocasionné par la boissons, lors quil viendera quelque nouvell quel soit jnterressante au bien du service jl auront attention de nous les faire assavoir En fin pour tous les cas que nous ne ferions prevoir nous nous enraportant a leur bonne conduite et a leur application pour le bien publique.

donné au poste Vincene le 18<sup>me</sup> May 1764.

ST. ANGE.

(Translation.)

By virtue of the order of M. de Neyon, Major Commandant of the Illinois country, to name a person to attend to the police, and to maintain good order among the citizens of this post, as also of the voyageurs and the Indians—I, invalided Captain, being about to depart to the Illinois country according to the order of Monsieur de Neyon have named Monsieur Deroite de Richardville, performing the functions of captain of militia, jointly with Sr. le Caindre, soldier of the troops. Their first care should be to maintain good feeling among the Indians to prevent disorder so long as they are in charge. Whenever complaint shall be made to them against any one they will proceed to call an assembly of the more notable of the citizens of the place, where the matter shall be decided by a plurality of votes.

Messieurs Deroite de Richardville and de Caindre can not watch too carefully that the citizens keep up their fences, it being to the public interest that the cattle should not pass from the commons to the grain fields. They will check as far as they are able the disorders which occur too frequently, occasioned by drinking. Whenever any news shall come to them which may be of importance to the good of the service they will take care to apprise me of it. In conclusion, in all cases which I have not been able to foresee, I depend on their good management and their devotion to the public welfare.

Given at Post Vincennes the 18th of May, 1764.

ST. ANGE.

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#### REPORT OF LIEUTENANT FRASER.

SIR—A detail of the different occurrences of my late journey through the Indian Nations, cou'd neither be very entertaining, nor interesting to any others, but myself. At

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your request Sir, I will endeavour to give you a discription of the countries through which I passed which is a thing however I should not attempt were I not confident that you will have the goodness to excuse any inaccuracies you may find in it whither occasion by hurry or proceeding from my incapacity.

I am very sensible that my pen can not do justice to the beauties and conveniences that nature has bestowed on the large tract of country lying hitherto uninhabited between Fort Pitt & the Illinois on both sides of the Ohio.

After traversing ninety miles of a beautiful country lying between New York & Philadelphia, and traveling from that place to Fort Pitt, distant 320 miles the greatest part peopled by very wealthy inhabitants I thought I cou'd see no other that cou'd excel it. I was soon convinced however of the contrary on my proceeding down the Ohio on my way to the Illinois. That river (very properly termed La Belle Riviere by the French which is the literal translation of the Iroquois name) is formed by the confluence of the Allegeny & Moningahila Rivers, at Fort Pitt where they lose their names as the Ohio does by falling into the Missisipe about forty leagues below Fort Charters & almost due West from Philadelphia after running about two thousand miles in a serpentine course through a country abounding with an incredible quantity of game & constantly presenting different agreeable prospects to the Travelers view.

Tho' this River is considerable at Fort Pitt for its size during the greatest part of the year, yet it is very much increas'd both in Depth and Width by the many Rivers that Discharge themselves into it. The most considerable of these are the Muskingum, whereon the Delaware live. The Canaway which comes from the back Frontiers of Virginia, the Scioto on whose Banks the Shawanise dwell, La Riviere de Rochers, which begins at a little distance

from the Miames, the Ouabache which comes from near the same place & the Cumberland & Cherokee Rivers which fall into it considerably lower. These lesser rivers are navigable for Batteaus during the greatest part of the year. From the middle of October to June, 8 months.

There are no Indian Nations living contiguous to the Banks of the Ohio, but those two I have just mentioned The Delaw & Shaw & the Mingos or Senecas who live a little above Fort Pitt—excepting those of Ouabache on which there are five nations, Ouiachtonons, Quicapous, Mascoutains, Piankishaw & Virmillion, settled besides a French Village called St. Vincent in which there are about sixty farmers who raise a considerable quantity of Wheat and Tobacco, and have a good stock of cattle.

Between this River and the Illinois are several very extensive plains on which there are always vast numbers of Buffaloe & Deer and every other species of game common in that country.

The soil in the Illinois settlements is not so good as at any of the places I have already named owing perhaps to the quantity of sand mixed with it by the Missisipe, the Inhabitants, suppose that the River overflowed formerly, all the land at present cultivated in that Colony & the situation with some other vestiges seem to give great probability to their conjecture.

The land however is capable to produce anything which one cou'd expect in so northerly a climate. They raise a great deal of wheat & Indian corn, they have also most kinds of European fruits and vegetables, tolerably good considering the little pains they give themselves in cultivating them. They have attempted to rear the European vines, which they say they cou'd not bring to any perfection, but I impute their having given it up of late more to the want of skill in those who planted them, or the Monarch's Injunctions prohibiting the raising any thing which

might interfere with the staple commodities of the Northern Country. They make however a very bad Wine, from the natural vine of the country which grows spontaneous in every part of that Colony, this Wine tho' seemingly very unhealthy is sold at a most exorbitant price, when they have none else to drink.

The Illinois Indians are about six hundred & fifty able to bear arms. Nothing can equal their passion for drunkenness, but that of the French Inhabitants, who are for the greatest part drunk every day while they can get Drink to buy in the Colony. They import more of this article from New Orleans than they do of any other, and they never fail to meet a speedy & good market for it. They have a good many Negroes, who are obliged to labour very hard to support their masters, in their extravagant Debaucheries. Any one that has had any dealings with them, must plainly see, they are for the most part transported convicts, or people who have fled for some crimes. Those who have not done it themselves are the offspring of such as those I just mentioned inheriting their Forefathers vices. They are cruel and treacherous to each other & consequently so to strangers. They are dishonest in every kind of Business & lay themselves out to overreach strangers, which they often do by a low cunning peculiar to themselves, and their artful flatteries with extravagant entertainments (in which they affect the greatest hospitality) generally favour their schemes.

There is a rich Lead Mine in that Colony from which they get all the lead, that is needed in the country, and a River, the water of which (tho' fresh to the taste) they make a sufficiency of salt for the consumption of the Inhabitants. But these latter conveniences are unluckily on the Western or Spanish side of the River.

The trade of this Country is extremely considerable, till of late years it was wholly monopolized by the leading



men in New Orleans, but since the last peace, they have allowed any one that wou'd pay the fees of a passport to go to our side of the River and amongst our Indians. This was a very political scheme in them, as every trader became a Partizan for the French in the nations we traded to, or in other words, the introduced those traders, who are in general most unconciencious Rascals and made it their interest to debauch from us such Indians as they found well disposed towards us—and to foment & increase the animosity of such as the found otherwise; to this we shou'd alone impute our late war with the Indians, whom they unwarrantably supplied with ammunition and every other thing necessary for carrying it on. The N. O. Company for the Fur trade have confined their commerce to the Missouri River since, which falls in about five leagues above our most northern settlement in the Illinois; private traders are permitted to go every where else, and many of them come to our side to trade, particularly into the Illinois River from whence they get a great share of the trade of that Colony.

I discovered also a few days before I left the Illinois that many traders who are permitted by us to come up from Canada with small quantities of goods, on their arrival in the Indian Nations commissions great quantities of goods from the French Merchants at the Illinois with which they purchase skins in the neighbourhood of our Posts & transport them afterwards to the Illinois—but this I hope will be put a stop to when we have troops enough in that Colony to establish proper posts or enable the commander to send Detachments to detect any we may find committing such Frauds.

When our traders arrive from the Post they can undersell those of the French at least 25 per cent. for which reason you may depend Sir that they will use all their endeavours to create us as many enemies as possible as

they will have the whole trade of every Nation they can engage in a war against us. They have an astonishing sway over the Indians, and they will not fail to put it to the proof, to procure themselves Profit. In short Sir it is my humble opinion that our Countrymen at the Illinois will never have a real peace while they are rivals with the French in Trade.

The French Commandments have always been sharers in the Profits of the New Orleans Company and do everything in their power to promote their common Interest. They will make eternal professions of Friendship and good Offices with every Englishman with whom they have the least intercourse, but their double manner of acting shou'd put us on guard to trust them as little as possible & to suspect them of doing us every harm possible in private. I have the honor to assure you of this Sir, from my own experience not from conjecture, and such as have had any business with them regarding his Majesty's Service must have met the same—if any shou'd pretend to say the contrary it must proceed from their having mistaken their flattering protestations for sincerity so far as to overlook their cunning designs. I have on many occasions been flattered by them & had compliments paid me that I had no tittle to a consciousness of the smallness of my own merit convinced me that they were covers for some hidden designs & the Commander in Chiefs gave me sufficient precautions on this head, to keep me always on my guard & to supply my want of Penetration.

You will think Sir from my account of the French in that new Colony that his Majesty has not made very valuable acquisition if we consider only the number of new Subjects he has got in that Colony, and I assure you Sir that we would be as well quit of them, if the Troops in that country unfortunately depend on them in a great measure for their provisions—You have heard Sir how the



greatest part of those who inhabited our side of the River abandon it on our getting possession of the Colony— Their desertion was undoubtedly occasion'd by the reports spread to paint the English government in as bad a light as invention cou'd frame it, but it is to be hoped, they will see how they have been imposed on and that so many will come back as will be able to supply our Troops plentifully.

The French have had Besides Fort Charters a small Fort at Cascaskias and another at Coake, there was a third called Assomption on the Bank of the Ohio opposite to the mouth of the Cherakee River, besides two Forts on Ouabach the one called the great Ouiachtonon was dependant on Canada & the other at little Ouiachtonon or S<sup>t</sup> Vincent—dependant on Orleans all those excepting fort Charters are intirely in ruins, some of them that you can scarce see any appearance of they did not seem to me of any great consequence were they even on a better footing as they were situated. The Fort of the Natchez is little better, the Barracks and everything in them seem to have been destroyed through wantonness. I am much surprised that we have not inquired of the French their Reasons for abandoning them so abruptly, without giving us Regular possession of them. I took upon myself to ask their reasons for so doing but I could never obtain any answer, perhaps owing to the difficulty of giving a proper one, or perhaps they did not look upon me as a person of sufficient consequence to inquire into those matters.

I forgot to mention Sir the number of Inhabitants at the Illinois and it is a thing which is very difficult to ascertain as they are going & coming constantly to & from the Indian Nations, as others are from New Orleans to the Illinois, but there are in general about seven hundred white men able to bear arms.

It remains only now to mention something of the In-

dians in general. What can be said of one, may be apply'd to all, there is so great a similitude between them.

The Indians are cruel, treacherous, and cowardly unless they can surprise their enemy without probability of suffering any loss themselves, but in that case they attack often ten times their own number. They are in general great Drunkards. I must except the Ozages nor are the Akansa or Chicasas so passionately fond of drink as other Nations are. These two are extremely like each other and are more remarkable for their attachment to the white people than any other.

As the Chicasases have ever been faithful to us they shou'd be distinguished by our favours to them before any other Nation, and showing a partiality for them before other Indians might inspire others with a resolution of imitating their fidelity Drink is the occasion of all our troubles amongst them and it were much to be wished that the assemblies or councils of the neighbouring Provinces would restrict the sending of it, as has been done to the Northward. I am persuaded Sir, when you well learn the licentious methods of carrying on the trade amongst them, that you will use your endeavours to prevent the fatal consequences we shou'd dread from it. I know no body so proper to inform you Sir minutely regarding it as Mr. John McIntosh commissary of the Chickasaws you need not expect to come at the truth from any *Trader*, but you may safely trust to his information, as I know him to be a man of such honesty that nothing could make him conceal anything which regards his Majestys Service or which you would be desirous to know.

I know no place (as I had the honour formerly to tell you Sir) where we shou'd establish a Fort at sooner than opposite to the mouth of the Missouri River which would give us the command of that River, shou'd we find it hereafter beneficial & wou'd also put a stop to French trading

up the River, a Post at the mouth of the Ouabache wou'd also be necessary to command the navigation of that river and the Ohio, & as a store to secure provisions or goods in coming from Fort Pitt, shou'd it be thought hereafter more expedient to go from thence by land to Fort Charters.

I think also that the mouth of the Yasou is a more proper place for a Post or Settlement than any other place on the Missipi, as it is the common route of the Creeks and Chactaws going to New Orleans.

I beg leave to Inform you Sir that I think if we could prevail on a few Indians to live at the Iberville with the detachment we get there, might be very servicable in killing game for the Troops, and their wives & children wou'd always be good pledges for their Peaceable Behaviour.

I have the honour to be with true respect Sir your most  
humble Servant

AL<sup>r</sup> FRASER.

Pensacola 4th May 1766.

P. S. The Commandants of the French Troops in the Illinois were always impowered to prohibit the exportation of any provisions from the Illinois till the Kings Magazines shou'd be first supplyd. This however the com<sup>dis</sup> often permitted in consequence of pecuniary considerations from those who exported them I think Sir that your Instructions on this head to your Commanding officer there would be necessary. The Inhabitants might otherwise export their grain and sell it at a lower price to the French that we might offer them for it. I know their antipathy to our Nation would make them embrace with great cheerfulness any sufferings or loss should they in any manner tend to distress us.

In consequence of Mons<sup>r</sup> Auburys intercession I understand by a letter from General Gage to him, that there are no reprisals to be made on the Indian Alibamons who lately, so grossly insulted us at the Iberville—as the Tonicaws have not been punished either for having beat back the

22d Regiment, they may think that they may always expect to commit the same Hostilitie with impunity. I think Sir it would not be improper to signify to them that must expect to be all cut off shou'd they for the future give reason to suspect their good intentions—nor do I think it would be wrong to punish them accordingly. The Chicasaws are the Proper Instruments for this duty.

AL<sup>r</sup> FRASER.

THOMAS HUTCHINS TO GEN. HALDIMAND.

FORT CHARTRES 15th Nov<sup>r</sup> 1768.

V.—15 of October.

SIR—Please to allow me to observe that your Exalted Station like many other high places in life, is not I presume free from some degree of care and trouble, at least so much as to deprive me of the smallest hopes of the Honour of your correspondence, however abstracted from the great obligation a letter from you would lay me under. I shall beg leave to intrude so much upon your time as may be necessary for the perusal of the enclosed it is a short description of the Country near (and River of) the Ohio from Fort Pitt to its junction with the Mississippe. You have it in the form of a journal wrote in haste. I flatter myself it may notwithstanding serve to assist in passing a few of your leisure minutes.

I would trouble you with the Occurrences of this place, but am apprehensive that a detail of them would swell this letter to a tedious length, you will be pleased therefore to excuse the liberty I have taken in referring you to M<sup>r</sup> Hutchinson to whom I have wrote a particulars of them.

The Fever and Augue since our arrival has raged with such uncommon violence as to put it out of our power to do scarce anything more than to bury some of our Officers and Men who were carried off by those disorders.

We expect next Spring if the Health of the Garrison permit to take possession of Post St Vincent on the Ouabache, if I should be furnished with any Occurrences worth your notice during my stay there, I shall do myself the pleasure to acquaint you with them.

Colonel Wilkins who is quite recovered from his illness has desired me to present you with his most respectful compliments.

It will always afford me pleasure to be favoured with your commands.

I am with the Greatest Respect Sir, your most obedient  
Humble Servant

THO: HUTCHINS

N. B. I must pray you will not  
permit any Person to take a copy }  
of the enclosed.

To Brigadier General Haldimand.

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## JOURNAL FROM FORT PITT TO THE MOUTH OF THE OHIO.

IN THE YEAR 1768.

The country for 71 miles below the Fort to an Indian Village situate on the north bank is broken with very high ridges, the valleys narrow and the course of the River plunged from many high grounds which compose its banks.

90 miles lower down is the Muskingum on the same side, in latitude  $39^{\circ} 19'$ . The Muskingum is a large River 250 yards wide at its confluence with the Ohio, it is said to be navigable 150 miles upwards with Battoes, and runs through a pleasant country as that near its junction appeared to be—on this River and its branches most of the Delaware Indians reside.

366 miles from Fort Pitt in Latitude  $38^{\circ} 22'$  is the Sioto River on the North Side. The River Ohio 50 miles above Muskingum to Sioto is most beautiful a number of Islands are to be seen of different sizes, but all covered with the



Tallest of Timber. The long reaches among which is one of 16 miles, and a  $\frac{1}{2}$  inclosed with the finest Trees of different kinds, of various verdures and leaves of the largest soils, afford a noble and enchanting prospect. The stillness of the current and a calm sunshine put a Trace on the Water, from which was reflected the most beautiful objects of simple nature, that I ever beheld. This glorious Vista was terminated by two Sugar Loaf Hills, of easy ascent, from which can be discovered all this magnificent variety. The Rivers Hockhocking & Canawha fall into the Ohio in this space, besides others of a smaller size, up the big Canawha the Northern Indians penetrate into the Chorakee Nations, and is a large fine stream by report navigable 100 miles towards the Southward.

The Country is everywhere pleasant, in the bends of the River course are large levell spots of the Richest Land. it is by the account of Traders remarkably Healthy.

On the Sioto the principal part of the Shawanoe Nation have their Villages 560 miles below Fort Pitt, 5 miles south of the River is the Licks in which Elephants bones are found, the principal Lick is of a circular form, composed of a species of Quick Sand and Black Mud which is of a very Miry Quality. From whence these animals came, and the cause of their Extinction may be a subject for an able Penn to discuss. It however seems not improbable, but that the whole which were in this Country (by what means soever they were brought) kept constantly in one Herd and that arriving at the Licks in a wet season, and entering to satisfy their natural thirst for the salt water which arrises from them, some of them might by their great weight have sunk so deep as not to be able to rise out & the others out of sympathy, or some other cause, not being willing to leave their companions in distress, have shared the same fate. The pasturage near the Licks seems to be one of the finest kind, mixed with grass and Herbage, and well watered.

The Ohio continues to be narrow the whole Distance from Fort Pitt to within 100 miles of the Falls. Its breadth seldom exceeds 500 yards and is confined by rising grounds, which causes many windings, altho the reaches are sometimes from 2 to 4 miles long. The River 100 miles above the Falls widens to 700 yards in many places, a number of Islands appear. The grounds diminish generally into Height, and the country is not so much broken—the height of the Banks permits their being every where inhabited, nor do they seem subjected to crumble much away. The Little and Big Mineamies Rivers fall into below the Sioto on the North side, and the Licking Creek and Kentuckee on the South. There are many good Encampments on the Islands.

The Falls is 682 miles below Fort Pitt in Latitude  $38^{\circ}8'$ . This place ought rather to be called a Rapid, as the streams has no sudden pitch, but only Runs with inconceivable rapidity over the Ledge of flatt Limestone Rock, which keeps up the waters of the higher Ohio, and to be the cause of that beautiful stillness of the Rivers course above.

317 miles below the Falls is the Wabash in Latitude  $37^{\circ}41'$ . From the Falls to about half this distance the country is very Hilly, the course of the River very winding and narrow and the Hills are mostly strong and steep.

837 miles below Fort Pitt the Ridgy ground disappears, the country grows flat and the River whose Bed widens is often divided by Islands. The River Wabash at its confluence is 300 yds. wide and Issues in with a considerable quantity of water of a muddy kind, it is navigable between 3 & 400 miles upwards. [Post St Vincent a French Village is situate 60 leagues up it and nearly the same distance further up stands the Village of Ouiatanon. The Following Indian Nations reside on this River, Vizt. Ouiatanons Kickapoos Pyankashaws, and Musquetons.]



The country between the course of this River and that of the Mississippi is general Flatt, open and of a rich luxurient soil, and that on the Banks of the Ohio is level, and in many places overflowed hereabouts.

120 miles below the mouth of the Wabash and 11 below that of the Cherokee River is the remains of the Fort Massiac, formerly a French Post.

The country 25 miles from the Wabash begins again to be mountainous being the N. W. end of the Apalachian Mountains which entirely terminate a small distance from the River Northernly.

45 miles below Massiac and 1164 from Fort Pitt is the mouth of the Ohio in Latitude  $36^{\circ} 43'$ . The gentle Ohio is pushed back by the impetuous stream of the Mississippi whose muddy white water is to be seen 200 yards up the Former. The ground for some miles within the Fork is an aggregation of mud and sand interspersed with marsh and some ponds of water, and is in high times of the Mississippi over flowed which is the case with the other sides of both rivers.

THO. HUTCHINS.

#### STE. MARIE'S LETTER TO GENERAL HALDIMAND.

MONSIEUR—je suis trop remplie de respect pour tout ce qui porte l'emprunte de l'otorité pour avoir manque a faire reponse a celle que votre Excelence marque m'avoir ecrite apres le depart de Monsieur le general Gage. Voicy la seulle que Mons<sup>r</sup> Maisonville m a remize ; a laquelle je repond avec tout le respect possible.

Pour faire une plus juste reponse a celle que Monsieur le general Gage nous honora et a la proclamation qu'il nous envoya en date du 8me Avril 1773, je ne pui me dispenser de faire le voyage des Illinois avec Mr. Perthuit qui fui deputé pour cette affaire parcequ'une partie des titres de

cette endroit etoient dans les archives de ce poste une autre partie emporté par un M. Clouvier cy deven notaire et que la mauvaize conduite obliga de partir furtivement d'autres mangé des rats &c.

En fait du ressencement que vostre Excellence exige de nous, il n'est pas surprenen qu'il ne luy fui pas encore parvenue puis qu'il ne put estre party des Illinois qu'au commencement de Septembre. Il a été fait tel qu'etoit la formal que Monsieur le general Gage nous envoya et qu'il recommandait suivre exactement.

Nous y avons joinn le certificat de M<sup>r</sup> S<sup>t</sup> Ange qui a longtemps commandé en ce poste au nom du Roy de France légalisé par M<sup>r</sup> Pierre Nasse, commendent en chef a S<sup>t</sup> Louis et de M<sup>r</sup> le Capitaine Laird qui a bien voulue se charger du tout pour le faire parvenir a Monsieur le general Gage n'etent pas prevenue que Vostre Excellence gouvernoit en sa place.

Nous sommes tres persuadé que des affaires ainsi mal en ordre ne pouroit avoir qu'un tres meauvais succes si nous n'avions pas la plus ferme confiance dans les vertues de vostre Excellence et sous la protection de laquelle nous nous metons; et comme c'est les propres des grandes ames de s'interesser pour un peuple malheureux, nous la supplions de nous estre favorable et faire chouse digne d'elle et ne cesserons de faire des vœux pour sa prosperite.

J'ay l'honneur d'estre avec un tres profond respect

Monsieur

Vostre tres humble et tres obeissant serviteur

S<sup>te</sup> MARIE

Au Poste Vincennes le 3e May 1774.

(Translation.)

MONSIEUR—I am too full of respect for all that bears the imprint of authority to have neglected to make reply to that which your Excellence informs me you wrote me after

the departure of Monsieur General Gage. This is the only one which Monsieur Maisonville has sent me, to which I reply with all possible respect.

To make a more correct reply to that with which Monsieur General Gage honored us, and to the proclamation which he sent us under date of April 8, 1773, I was obliged to make the trip to the Illinois with Mr. Perthuit (Perthwaite?), who was sent to attend to this matter, because a part of the title-deeds of this place were in the archives of that post, another part carried away by a M. Clouvier, former notary, whose bad conduct obliged him to depart secretly, others were eaten by rats etc.

In regard to the verification (of titles) which your Excellence requires of us, it is not surprising that it has not yet reached you, for it could not be started from the Illinois before the beginning of September. It has been made according to the form which Monsieur General Gage sent us, and which he recommended us to follow exactly.

We have joined to it the certificate of Monsieur St. Ange, who commanded at this post for a long time in the name of the King of France, authenticated by Monsieur Piernas, commandant in chief at St. Louis, and of Monsieur Captain Lord, who indeed offered to see that it reached Monsieur General Gage, not being aware that your Excellence governed in his place.

We are indeed convinced that affairs in such bad order could not have other than very poor success, if we did not have the greatest confidence in the virtues of your Excellence, and under the protection of whom we put ourselves; and as it is the characteristic of great souls to interest themselves for an unfortunate people, we supplicate you to be favorable to us, and to do as is worthy of you, and we will never cease to offer prayers for your prosperity.

I have the honor to be, with very profound respect,  
Monsieur,

Your very humble and very obedient servant

STE. MARIE.

Post Vincennes, May 3, 1774.

## POSTE VINCESNES.

## (The Recensement, or Verification of Titles.)

Noms des habitants.	Titre par le quel Ils Reclament.	Années des concessions.	Noms des Com-mandts qui ont Concéde.	Gouverneurs Generaux qui ont confirmé les concessions.
J. Bte. Racine.....	Entre Ses Mains au susdit. poste..	1749	Mr. St. Ange.....	Vaudreuille.
Peron Père.....	Perdue.....	.....	Mr. St. Ange.....	.....
Peron fils.....	Perdue.....	.....	Mr. St. Ange.....	.....
Maisonville.....	Entre Ses Mains.....	1761	Mr. St. Ange.....	Kerlerec.
Francois Barrois.....	Entre Ses Mains.....	1750	Mr. St. Ange.....	Vaudreuille.
Binet.....	Idem.....	1764	Mr. St. Ange.....	Dabadie.
Philibert.....	Idem.....	1761	Mr. St. Ange.....	Kerlerec.
Lagannière.....	Perdue.....	.....	Mr. St. Ange.....	.....
Delorier.....	Perdue.....	.....	Vincenne.....	Bienville.
La Tulippe.....	Entre Ses Mains.....	1755	St. Ange.....	Kerlerec.
Meteyer.....	Perdue.....	.....	.....	.....
Perodeau.....	Perdue.....	.....	.....	.....
Thibault.....	Perdue.....	.....	.....	.....
Charles. Bonneaux.....	Entre Ses Mains.....	1762	St. Ange.....	Kerlerec.
Antoine Malette.....	Perdue.....	.....	St. Ange.....	.....
Louis Malette.....	Perdue.....	.....	St. Ange.....	.....
De Signe.....	Entre Ses Mains.....	1764	St. Ange.....	Dabadie.
Joseph Chabot.....	Entre Ses Mains.....	1768	Chapallee.....	Dabadie.
Bordelau.....	Entre Ses Mains.....	1764	St. Ange.....	Dabadie.
Pierre Sans Peur.....	Idem.....	1764	St. Ange.....	Dabadie.
La Déroute.....	Verballement.....	1762	St. Ange.....	Kerlerec.
Broûillet.....	Verballement.....	1761	St. Ange.....	Kerlerec. *
Marier.....	Entre Ses Mains.....	1749	St. Ange.....	Vaudreuille.
Louis Goder.....	Idem.....	1763	St. Ange.....	Kerlerec.
Danis.....	Idem.....	1758	St. Ange.....	Kerlerec.



## POSTE VINCESNES—CONTINUED.

Noms des habitants.	Titre par le quel Ils Reclament.	Années des concessions.	Noms des Com-mands qui ont Concéde.	Gouverneurs Generaux qui ont confirmé les concessions.
Jean Bte. Sans Peur.	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
Chapeaux	Entre Ses Mains	1763	St. Ange	Kerlerec.
Vaudry	Idem.	1757	St. Ange	Vaudreuille.
Pichon	Idem.	1772	Ste. Marie.	.....
Dielle	Verballement	.....	St. Ange	.....
Tonga L'Ainé	Verballem	.....	St. Ange	.....
Jean La Garde	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
Pierre Goder.	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
Clermont	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
Charles Bosseron	Entre Ses Mains	1772	Ste. Marie.	.....
François Bosseron	Entre Ses Mains	1770	Ste. Marie.	.....
Veuve Drouet.	Entre Ses Mains	1754	St. Ange	Kerlerec.
Allair	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
Grimard	Entre Ses Mains	1756	St. Ange	Kerlerec.
Crepaux.	Entre Ses Mains	1771	Ste. Marie.	.....
La Chine.	Entre Ses Mains	1760	St. Ange	Kerlerec.
Sagnaux.	Entre Ses Mains	1762	St. Ange	Kerlerec.
François Pichon.	Idem.	1770	Ste. Marie.	.....
Levron.	Idem.	1764	St. Ange	Dabadie.
Cartier	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	Kerlerec.
Chartier	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	Kerlerec.
Deshetres	Verballement	.....	St. Ange	Kerlerec.
Saint Martin.	Verballement	.....	St. Ange	Kerlerec.
Canifaux.	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	Vaudreuille
Morreaux	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	Kerlerec.
Millet.	Verballement	.....	St. Ange	Kerlerec.
François La Violette.	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	Dabadie.
Saint Derier.	Verballem	.....	St. Ange	Dabadie.

Lanquedoc frères	Entre Ses Mains.	1770	Ste. Marie.	.....
Olivier	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
Dizie	Entre Ses Mains.	1764	St. Ange	Dabadie.
Campaux	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
Bonavanture.	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
Gagnolété.	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
Latrimouille.	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
Jean Louis De Moyon	Entre Ses Main.	1750	St. Ange	Vaudreuille.
François Goder.	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
La Rose.	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	Dabadie.
Paget	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
Cornaux.	Verballement	.....	St. Ange	.....
Pelletier.	Entre Ses Main.	1763	St. Ange	Kerlerec.
Tous' de Noyon.	Verballement	.....	St. Ange	.....
Le Fevre.	Entre Ses Main.	1768	Chapard.	.....
Droüin.	Verballement	.....	St. Ange	.....
Langoumois	Entre Ses Main.	1763	St. Ange	Kerlerec.
Bergeron	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
La Plante	Verballement	.....	St. Ange	.....
La Foret.	Entre Ses Main.	1764	St. Ange	Dabadie.
Maria	Verballement	.....	St. Ange	.....
Durbois	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
La Fleur	Entre Ses Main.	1772	Ste. Marie	.....
Villeneuve.	Idem.	1764	St. Ange	Dabadie.
Cardinal Millet	Idem.	1764	St. Ange	Dabadie.
Polinnete	Entre Ses Main.	1764	St. Ange	Dabadie.
Brunette.	Idem.	1761	St. Ange	Kerlerec.
Jean St. Aubain.	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
Boyer	Entre Ses Mains.	1761	St. Ange	Kerlerec.
Cournoyer.	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
Veuve Chapard	Entre Ses Mains.	1752	St. Ange	Vaudreuille.
Veuve Mallette	Entre Ses Mains.	1759	St. Ange	Kerlerec.
François Mallette.	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....
Racicault.	Entre Ses Main	1772	Ste. Marie	.....
La Geoge Cardinal.	Perdue	.....	St. Ange	.....



## CERTIFICATE OF THE NOTARY PHILLIBERT.

Je, Etienne Phillibert, sous mon propre serment sur les S<sup>tes</sup> Evangiles Certifie à tous qu'il appartiendra, que plusieurs habitants du poste Vincenne, Lorsque je faisois la fonction de Notaire au dit Poste, avant l' evasion de feu Baumer notaire après moi, lui avoir remis plusieurs contracts de concession appartenans aux habitants, et que l' evasion du dit S<sup>r</sup> Baumer, ainsi que le Transport du Greffe de ce poste en celui des Illinois, ont fait perdre quantité de papiers de Concessions, ainsi que des Contracts de Vente, en l' année mil sept cent soizante et un, qui fut ce transport de dits papiers ainsi que l' evasion du dit Notaire. En foy de quoi j'ai signé le présent au dit poste Vincenne Le 12<sup>ie</sup> Aout 1773.

Signé à L'original,

J. E. PHILLIBERT,  
Notaire Royale.

(Translation.)

I, Etienne Phillibert, under my solemn oath on the Holy Gospels, certify to all whom it may concern, that many citizens of Post Vincennes, when I was performing the function of Notary at the said Post, before the flight of the late Baumer notary after me, delivered to him many contracts of concession belonging to the citizens, and that the flight of said Mr. Baumer, and also the removal of the record office of this Post to that of the Illinois, have caused to be lost a number of papers of concession, as well as contracts of sale, in the year seventeen hundred and sixty-one, when this removal of said papers as also the flight of said notary occurred. In testimony of which I have signed these presents at the said Post Vincennes, the 12th of August, 1773.

Signed in original,

J. E. PHILLIBERT,  
Royal Notary.

## CERTIFICATE OF LOUIS ST. ANGE.

Nous Louis St. Ange de Bellerive ci devant Capitaine d' Infanterie, employé du service de Sa Majestée Très Chretienne, actuellement Capitaine reformé au service de Sa Majesté Catholique: Certifions à tous ce qu'il appartiendra a avoir commande le Poste Vincennes au nom de sa dite Majesté Très Chretienne, avec une Garrison de Troupe Reglies, depuis l'année mil sept cent trente six jusqu'en l'année mil sept cent soizante quatre et que ma premiere commission pour commander dans le dit poste a été de sa Majesté Très Chretienne, sous le gouvernement de M. de Bienville, Gouverneur General de la Louisiâne en la dite année mil sept cent trente six, qu'ensuite j'ai été continué sous les gouvernements de Mess<sup>rs</sup> de Vaudreuille et de Kerlerrec et Dabadie successeurs les uns des autres au dit gouvernement; jusqu'en la dite année mil sept cent soizante quatre; que pendant le dit Temps j'ai concédé a plusieurs habitants diverses Terres et Terrains par ordre de mes dits S<sup>rs</sup> les Gouverneurs, au nom de sa Majesté Très Chretienne; que de plus le dit Poste etoit etabli nombre d'années auparavant mon commandment, sous celui de M. de Vincennes Officier des Troupes, lequel j'ai relevé par ordre du roi; que l'on doit ajouter foi aux concessions que j'ai delivrées et signées aux dits habitants, qu'en outre j'ai permis verbalement à nombre de particuliers, de s'etablir et d'y cultiver des Terres dont ils sont en possession depuis plusieurs années. En foi de quoi avons signé ces presents pour servir et valoir aux habitants du Poste Vincennes a que de raison. Et à quelles fait apposer le cachet de nos armes aux Illinois sur la partie de Sa Majesté Catholique le Trente Aout mil sept cent soizante et treize.

Signé à l'original,

S<sup>t</sup> ANGE

(Translation.)

I, Louis St. Ange de Bellerive former captain of infantry employed in the service of His Most Christian Majesty, at present invalided captain of the service of His Catholic Majesty, certify to all whom it may concern that I commanded at Post Vincennes in the name of His Most Christian Majesty, with a garrison of regular troops, from the year one thousand seven hundred and thirty-six until in the year one thousand seven hundred and sixty four, and that my first commission as commandant of the said post was from His Most Christian Majesty under the government of M. de Bienville, Governor General of Louisiana in the said year one thousand seven hundred and thirty six; that thereafter I was continued under the government of Messieurs de Vaudreville, de Kerlerec, and D'Abadie, successors one to another in the said government until in the year one thousand seven hundred and sixty-four; that during the said time I have conceded to many inhabitants divers lands and pieces of ground by order of my said Srs. the Governors, in the name of His Most Christian Majesty; that further, the said post was established a number of years before my command under that of M. de Vincennes, officer of the troops, whom I succeeded by order of the king; that faith should be given to the concessions which I have signed and delivered to the said inhabitants; that in addition to this I have verbally permitted a number of individuals to establish themselves and cultivate the lands of which they have been in possession for many years. In testimony of which I have signed these presents to secure and establish the rights of the inhabitants of Post Vincennes, and to which I have caused to be attached the seal of our arms at the Illinois on the part of His Catholic Majesty, the thirtieth of August, one thousand seven hundred and seventy three.

Signed in original,

ST. ANGE.

## AUTHENTICATION OF DON PEDRO PIERNAS.

L. O. S.

Nous Don Pedro Piernas Capitaine d' Infanterie Lieutenant Gouverneur des Etablissements des Illinois et leur dependances appartenans à Sa Majesté Catholique, certifions a tous qu'il appartiendra que Mons. De St Ange est Capitaine reformé et employé au service de Sa Majesté Catholique, que c'est sa veritable signature, qu'il aposée devant nous au bas du certificat ci-dessus et que foi doit y etre ajoutée. En consequence avons signé le présent, et aposé le sceau de nos armes à St Louis aux Illinois, le trente Aout mil sept cent soizante et treize.

Signé a l' original,

L. O. S.

PEDRO PIERNAS.

[SEAL.]

(Translation.)

I, Don Pedro Piernas, Captain of Infantry, Lieutenant Governor of the settlements of the Illinois and their dependencies, belonging to His Catholic Majesty, certify to all whom it may concern that Monsieur de St. Ange is an invalided captain and employed in the service of His Catholic Majesty ; that this is his genuine signature which he affixed before me at the bottom of the above certificate ; and that credit should be given to it. In testimony of which I have signed these presents, and attached the seal of my arms at St. Louis in the Illinois country, the thirtieth of August, one thousand seven hundred and seventy three.

Signed in original,

[SEAL.]

PEDRO PIERNAS.

## GENERAL HALDIMAND TO GENERAL GAGE.

N. YORK, le 5 Jan. 1774.

MON.—Je viens enfin de recevoir une lettre de Cap<sup>e</sup> Lord des Illinois daté du 3e Sep<sup>re</sup> m'envoyer le recense-

ment (ou plutot les noms) de 88 habitans qui sont etabli au Post Vincene. Cette piece est accompagn  d'un certificat de M. St Ange qui y a command  pendant plusieurs ann es, et qui dit avoir  t  autoris e par les differents Gouv<sup>s</sup> de la Louisianne, de conceder des Terrains dans les endroits la. Mais la plupart de ces titres sont perdu, soit par accident ou par la mauvaise conduite d'un notaire de l'endroit, de sorte qu'il y a plusieurs de ces habitans qui n'ont d'autre titres que celui de possession, et comme il serait tres difficile de leur disputer, le meilleur serait peutetre de les laisser tranquille, mais de leur donner quelqu'un pour les conduire. Quoique la malle doit se fermer ce soir je tacherai d'envoyer les pieces au compte de Dartmouth, me persuadant que vous vous prendrez quelqu'arrangement pour les Illinois pendant cet hiver. Le Cap<sup>ne</sup> Lord me manque que deux habitans Francais ont (a l'exemple de Mons. Murray) achete toute le terrain appartenant a une des tribus des Illinois, qui  tait autrefois tres nombreuses et qui se trouve reduite aujourd'hui   douze Guerriers. J'ai toute lieu de crois que les deux Francais ne sont que les Agents de la meme compagnie qui achete la premier terrain, et il est facile de prevoir qu'il y aura dans peu beaucoup de desordre dans ces cotes la, si on n'y porte une prompte remede, habitans s'etabli augmente et a que jours la fureur.

Je profitais de l'occasion du L<sup>t</sup> Ellis qui partit Dimanche dernier pour vous savoir la mort de Commissaire Lake, enfin que si vous avez dessein de servir quelques une de vos amis vous puissiez le faire. J'annonce cet vacance au Secretaire de la Guerre par ce paquet et en attendant que la volonte du Roi soit connu j'ai nomm  le Cap<sup>e</sup> Hutchinson pour faire la fonction de Mons. Lake avec ordre de continuer tout les personnes employe dans cette affaire, afin que les choses continuent dans l'ordre ou elles ont  t  j'usqua present.

Dans le retour de l'etat Maj. outre mon Aide de Camp,



j'en ai nommé un autre faisant fonction en Amérique et que je payerai par un warrant.

Depuis les nouvelles que vous aurez reçues par le Cap<sup>e</sup> Cowper il ne s'est rien passé d'extraordinaire et je compte que le vaisseau qui apporte le Thé n'occasionera pas des désordre, on paraît bien déterminer à le faire reporter sans bruit.

Lady Dunmore arriva hier avec une légion d'enfants. Elle aura de la peine à continuer son voyage le temps étant très mauvais. Mes compliments à Madame &c.

J'ai l'h.

Je vous prie Mon. d'assurer My Lord Gage de mes respects, et de lui dire que j'ai fait parvenir dans son temps les lettres pour Mons. Campbell qui avait mis sous mon couvert. Je vous félicite d'avoir pu servir Mons. Kemble. On me dit que sa commission de "naval officer" est arrivée.

(Translation.)

NEW YORK, Jan. 5, 1774.

MONSIEUR—I have at length received a letter from Captain Lord, of the Illinois, dated September 3d, transmitting to me the verification (or rather the names) of 88 citizens who are established at Post Vincennes. This document is accompanied by a certificate of M. St. Ange, who commanded there for many years, and who says he had been authorized by the different governors of Louisiana to concede lands in that locality. But the most of these title-deeds are lost, either by accident or by the bad conduct of a notary of the place, so that there are many of these citizens who have no other title than that of possession, and as it will be very difficult to controvert them, it will probably be better to let them remain, but to send some one to govern them. Although the mail ought to close this evening, I will endeavor to forward the documents to Lord Dartmouth, believing that you will adopt some arrangement for the Illinois during this winter. Cap-

tain Lord informs me that two French citizens have (after the manner of Mr. Murray) bought all the land belonging to one of the tribes of the Illinois, who were formerly very numerous and who are now reduced to a dozen warriors. I have every reason to believe that the two Frenchmen are nothing but agents of the same company which bought the first land, and it is easy to foresee that there will be in a little while much disorder in those parts if a remedy is not promptly provided; the settlers will establish themselves, increase, and some day there will be trouble.

I availed myself of the opportunity to write you by Lt. Ellis, who left last Sunday, to let you know of the death of Commissary Lake, in order that if you desired to serve some of your friends you might be able to do so. I announce this vacancy to the Secretary of War by this mail, and until the pleasure of the King shall be known I have appointed Captain Hutchinson to perform the duties of Mr. Lake, with orders to continue all the persons employed in this business, in order that affairs may keep in the same situation that they have been to the present.

In the return of the staff in addition to my aide-de-camp, I have appointed another for duty in America, and whom I will pay by a warrant.

Since the news that you received by Captain Cowper nothing extraordinary has occurred, and I think that the vessel which brings the tea will not occasion disorder, indeed they appear to have decided to take it back quietly.

Lady Dunmore arrived yesterday with a legion of children. She will have trouble in continuing her journey, the weather being very bad. My compliments to Madame, etc.

I have the honor—

I beg you to present My Lord Gage my respects and to say to him that I have delivered in good time the letters to Mr. Campbell which he sent in my care. I congratulate you on having been able to serve Mr. Kemble. I hear that his commission as “naval officer” has arrived.



B 27, p. 295.

## THE ROAD FROM DETROIT TO THE ILLINOIS

*By way of the Forts Miami, Ouatatanon and  
St. Vincent with some remarks.<sup>1</sup>*

	MILES	MILES
From Detroit to Lake Erie.....	18	
To the River Miami <sup>2</sup> .....	36	
To the Foot of the Rapids.....	18	
To the Top of the Rapids.....	18	
N. B. Part of the Ottawa & a few of the Hurons inhabit this part of the River. In the former when the water is low, Canoes cannot pass the Rapids, otherwise than by being dragged over the stones & frequently the Traders are obliged to carry their goods the whole eighteen miles.		
To the end of the still water.....	24	
To the Top of the next Rapids.....	9	
To the Grand Glaze, <sup>3</sup> a river so called on the left going up.	6	
N. B. A few Ottawas live here.		
To the little Glaze on the right.....	3	
To the Kings Glaze on the right (a few Ottawas live here) ..	12	
To the Elm Meadow.....	15	
To Sledge Id (so called from a large stone resembling a sledge) .....	12	
To the Split rock .....	6	
To the Wolf Rapid.....	12	
To the great Bend. <sup>4</sup> .....	12	
To Fort Miami. <sup>5</sup> .....	15	
		216

N. B. The Miami Nation live opposite the Fort and consist of about 50 Men able to bear arms—The Fort is inhabited by Eight or Ten French Families.

<sup>1</sup>This Itinerary is not dated, but is deposited with papers of the year 1774, and was probably prepared in that year.

<sup>2</sup>River Miami—the Maumee.

<sup>3</sup>Grand Glaze—the Auglaize river; site of Defiance, Ohio.

<sup>4</sup>The Great Bend—in Maumee township, Allen county, Ind. The river is very winding for a number of miles east of this place, so that the distances given appear large when compared with a direct line.

<sup>5</sup>Fort Miami—The British establishment.

	MILES	MILES
		216
From Fort Miami to Cold Feet <sup>1</sup> where the old French Fort was . . . . .	3	
The carrying place to the little River . . . . .	9	
To the River à Boite . . . . .	6	
To the Flats . . . . .	21	
To the little Rock <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	3	
To the Ouabache <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	6	
N. B. Between the Miami & the Ouabache there are Beaver Dams which when water is low Passengers break down to raise it, & by that means pass easier than they otherwise would, when they are gone the Beaver come and mend the Breach, for this reason they have been hitherto sacred as neither Indians or White people hunt them.		
To the River Sallaminee <sup>4</sup> on left going down . . . . .	15	
N. B. This River is navigable for canoes 150 miles.		
To the Pipe River on the left . . . . .	18	
To the Great Rapid . . . . .	3	
To the Eel River on the right <sup>5</sup> . . . . .	3	
To the Little Rock <sup>6</sup> . . . . .	9	
To the Island of Garlic <sup>7</sup> . . . . .	15	
To Richards Coal Mine <sup>8</sup> on the right close to the river . . .	9	
To the River Tripeccans <sup>9</sup> on the right . . . . .	9	
To Ouatatanon Fort <sup>10</sup> . . . . .	18	
This Fort is on the right about 70 yards from the River, the Ouattanon Nation of Indians is on the opposite side, & the Kiccaposses are round the Fort, in both villages about 1000 men able to bear arms.		183
		399

<sup>1</sup>Cold Feet—i. e., the Indian village of Coldfoot's band. Coldfoot (Pied Froid) was a prominent Miami chief of the middle of the last century. Vide Dunn's Indiana, pp. 65, 66.

<sup>2</sup>Little Rock river—now known as Bull creek.

<sup>3</sup>The Wabash—mouth of Little River, site of Huntington, Ind.

<sup>4</sup>The Salominee—site of La Gro.

<sup>5</sup>Eel river—site of Logansport.

<sup>6</sup>Little Rock river—So marked on ancient maps. Probably Crooked Creek, Cass county.

<sup>7</sup>Island of Garlic—Probably an island near Lockport. The distances from Eel river to the Tippecanoe are too great for accurate decision.

<sup>8</sup>At Richards river, on old maps—Probably a small stream that empties opposite Delphi, or one two miles above.

<sup>9</sup>The Tippecanoe.

<sup>10</sup>Post Ouatatanon—After careful study of authorities and maps I located this fort "on the north bank of the Wabash," "a short distance above Indian creek, which the French called Rivière de Boisrouge." About five months after my "Indiana" was published, in February 1889, some workmen who were taking gravel from a bank near the river, about four miles above

	MILES	MILES
Brought over		399
From Fort Ouiattanon Down the Ouabache to the river Vermillion.....	60	
N. B. This River is on the right & at some seasons is navigable for boats about 120 miles. A mile up it is a Village of Piankshaws of upwards of 150 Men.....	3	
To the Highlands <sup>1</sup> or old Boundary between Canada and Louisiana.....	57	
To Fort St. Vincent.....	120	
To the Illinois by Land, the road is chiefly through Plains and Extensive Meadows.....		240
		240
From Detroit to the Illinois.....		879
N. B. The above distances are all computed.		
The Road from Detroit to Fort St. Josephs by land & from thence to the junction of the Illinois River with the Mississippi by water.		
From Detroit to the River <sup>2</sup> Huron or Haudewine Sippy...	40	
N. B. There is a Village of Puttawattamees of six large Cabans—The River at this place is about Fifty feet wide & the water is generally from one and a half to two feet deep, when there are Floods Travellers are obliged to make rafts to cross it—The road to this place bad.		
To the Salt River <sup>3</sup> or Wandayon Sippi.....	12	
N. B. There is another Village of Pittawattamees of five Cabans—This river is never so high as to prevent people passing it.		
To one of the Branches of Grand River <sup>4</sup> or Washtanon that falls into Lake Michigan.....	60	
There is another Village of Pittawattamees of eight large Cabans.		112

Indian creek, found the remains of a French officer, as appeared from parts of the uniform still existing. From this and other remains, silver crucifixes, utensils of various kinds, etc., many of which are now preserved at Purdue University, the site of the fort was identified. (Lafayette Call, Feb. 12 and Feb. 19, 1889.) The location was afterwards confirmed by Mrs. Berilla Smith, an aged lady, who came to that region in 1831, and had the site of the old fort pointed out to her by earlier settlers. (Lafayette Call, March 11, 1892.) It is nearly opposite—slightly below—the mouth of Wea creek, near Sand Ridge church.

<sup>1</sup>The Highlands—a translation of the French name *terre haute*, which attached to the locality long before the city of *Terre Haute* was thought of.

<sup>2</sup>Near the site of Ann Arbor.

<sup>3</sup>Saline creek—the trail bore to the North from this point, either to avoid the tamarack swamps of Southern Michigan, or to reach the other Pottawattamie villages.

<sup>4</sup>At Eaton Rapids—from this point the road was in a very direct line to Fort St. Joseph. (Michigan Pioneer Collections, Vol. 3, p. 380.)

	MILES	MILES
Brought over	112	
To Reccanamazo River, or Pusawpaw Sippy otherwise the Iron Mine river <sup>1</sup> .....	75	
N. B. There is another village of Pittawatamees of eight large Cabans, this river cannot be passed in Freshes on Rafts, at other time 1 or 2 feet deep		
To the Prairie ronde <sup>2</sup> .....	30	
N. B. There is a small Lake of about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile wide and 11 miles long, abounding with several sorts of Fish, such as Maskenongi, White Fish &c		
To Fort St Josephs <sup>3</sup> .....	75	292
N. B. There is a few Pittawattamees near the Fort the road after you pass the River Huron is very good being mostly on a small height of land & little wood till you come to St Joseph's where you pass thro' about a mile long and another about six miles long.		
From Fort St Josephe's you ascend that River to a carrying place <sup>4</sup> .....	12	
From carrying place to Recankeekee river.....	4	
To the junction of this River with the Iroquois River.....	150	
N. B. In this Fort is a village of 14 large Cabans of Mascoutains.		
To the junction of this river with the Chicaugou <sup>5</sup> river which forms the Illinois river.....	45	
N. B. At the Fort there is a Village of Puttawattamees of 12 large Cabans		
To the Rocks or old French Fort called Pumetewes <sup>6</sup> .....	90	
To the Mississippi.....	240	541
From Detroit to the Mississippi by way of the Illinois River.		833

<sup>1</sup>The Kalamazoo—near Battle Creek.<sup>2</sup>Prairie Ronde—in the southwest corner of Kalamazoo county, Michigan. The township still bears the name.<sup>3</sup>Near Niles, Michigan.<sup>4</sup>Site of South Bend, Indiana.<sup>5</sup>The Des Plaines.<sup>6</sup>Pimetoui.

## THE FIRST CENSUS OF INDIANA.\*

List of the Inhabitants at Fort St. Vincents on the Ouabache as they were in 1769, since which they have increased rather than diminished.

Mr. Nicholas	Bourcier
De Lorier	Jean Millhomme
Mrs. Mallé	Michelle Depè
Antoine Marci	Legar
Dubois	Dutremble
Nouveau	Millet Cardinal
St. Aubin	Cardinal
Mrs Richarville	Joseph Deroïn
Antoine La Framboise	Pierre Miret
Jaque Suinaitte	Duchesne
Pierre Lefevre	Bailoup
Charle Harbonnaux	Languedoc
Pierre Cornville	Chapeaux
François Godere	Vaudrille
François Barois	Pierre Peron
Jean Jazon	Lagarouche Godere
Bordelot	Mallèt
Peleteree	Josephe Chapot
Provencale	Josephe Metaige
Joseph Sabotte	Sanschagrin
Langlois	St. Louis dit-pluechon
De Comte	La fulliade
Valcour	Clairman
Denoïyon	De Ligne
Mallè fils	Grimar
Antoine Peradort	Alexis Delaronte
Orlans	Magnifique Desne.
St. Marie	Jean Lagarde
Lagaissie	Sanspeur
Brunett	Baillon
Desnott	Charle Sachisne
Panat	St. Martin
Arpain	Rapicaut

N. B. Nicholas is the most substantial Inhabitant and has been employed as Justice of the Peace there, by some authority from the commanding officer at the Illinois.

When this list was taken there were fifty women and One Hundred and Fifty Children belonging to the Inhabitants, and Fifty Men able to bear arms including Servants

\*Filed with the papers of 1774 and probably of that date.



Names of Inhabitants at Fort Ouiattanon.	Names of the Inhabitants at Fort Miami.
Maisonville Maignian Paillé Lamorceau J. Cardinal Lefevre Vernette La Riviere Clement Pierre Bertin Crepô Aijot	Capuchin Baptiste Campau Nicholas Perot Pierre Barthè Bergerson Berthelemy Dorien François Maisonville Laurain

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR ABBOTT, SUPERINTENDENT, TO SIR GUY CARLETON.

SIR—I have the honor of acquainting your Excellency of my arrival the 19th inst; the short time and trouble with the Indians &c has not permitted my taking a general Review of the affairs of this district; since the conquest of Canada, no person bearing His Majesty's Commission has been to take possession; from this your Excellency may easily imagine what anarchy reigns.

I must do the inhabitants justice for the respectfull reception I met with, and for their readiness in obeying the orders I thought necessary to issue.

The Wabache is perhaps one of the finest rivers in the world, on its banks are several Indian Towns, the most considerable is the Ouija, where it is said there are 1000 men capable to bear arms, I found them so numerous, and needy, I could not pass without great expense; The presents though very large, were in a manner despised, saying their antient Father (the french) never spoke to them without a barnfull of goods; having no Troops and only a handfull of french obliged me to esquise in part of their exorbitand demands, which has occasioned a much greater expense than I could have imagined, but I believe it not

thrown away, as I left them seemingly well disposed for His Majesty's service.

I have drawn on M<sup>r</sup> Dunn for seven thousand five hundred and thirty two Pounds six shillings and tenpence halfpenny New York currency and request your Excellency will order payment, I have likewise took the Liberty of drawing on M<sup>r</sup> Dunn for 6428 Livres in favour of Jean Baptiste Racine dit S<sup>t</sup> Marie, who has acted as commandant of this place since it was conceded to His Majesty. The fair character he bears with the certificate annexed to his account makes me think it just ; I hope your Excellency will excuse the incorrectness of this as I am every minute call'd away and have not a moment to myself ; I beg leave to mention M<sup>r</sup> Edgar the bearer of this who has had a great deal of trouble, paid all the expences of Government without the least gratification and without whom I could not have kept the accounts in any order from the multiplicity of affairs, I offered him payment which he refused, he came with me to see the country and can much better inform you of it than I can who was continually employed—I shall send off in a few days towards Fort Pitt to see what is doing there ; I enclose a note sent me from Mons<sup>r</sup> Rocheblave which shews the Spaniards intention toward us and which corresponds with other intelligence I have had. By the nex opportunity I hope to have it in my power to send a circumstantial account of this place, I must not neglect mentioning a M<sup>r</sup> Ramsey who has been here about nine years ago from the Illinois. I would beg your Excellency would give me orders concerning the land at this place for few of them have any proper grants though possessed near thirty years.

I have the honor to be with respect  
your Excellency's most obedient Hum<sup>l</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>  
(Signed) EDWARD ABBOTT  
Lieu<sup>t</sup> Governor & Superintendant of S<sup>t</sup> Vincennes

As it is necessary for a commissary of Indian affairs at this place I cou'd wish your Excellency wou'd approve of M<sup>r</sup> Edgar a person well qualified for it.

His Excellency Sir Guy Carleton.

Indorsed:—Copy of a Letter from Lieut.  
Governor Abbott Superintendant  
dated S<sup>t</sup> Vincennes  
26<sup>th</sup> May 1777.

In Sir Guy Carleton's (No. 32)  
of 11<sup>th</sup> August 1777  
(10)