

## SINCLAIR TO BOLTON.

MICHILIMAKINAC June 4<sup>th</sup> 1780

SIR,—

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The two vessels are returned from Lake Michigan with a part of the Indians & Volunteers on the attack against the Illinois, scarcity of Provisions obliged them to return by different routes, some by the Mississippi, some through the country between Lake Michigan and that River, and some, as directed by Chigagoe.

They have brought off Forty-three Scalps, thirty-four prisoners, Black and Whites & killed about 70 Persons. They destroyed several hundred cattle, but were beat off on their attacks both sides the River, at Pencour and at Cahokias, owing to the treachery of Mr. Calvé & the Sacks & Renards (for whom he is paid by the crown as Interpreter) His partner in commerce a Mons<sup>r</sup> Ducharme has kept pace with him, in preferring the little underhand commerce of that country to the advantages I held out to them all, in promising them the Trade of the Missouri, provided they could gain & Garrison the Illinois.

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That want of secrecy which is and must always be hurtful to the service, I cannot help lamenting upon this occasion.

The Spaniards received their Information of the meditated attack against the Illinois in the month of March last, and threw up in consequence of it a Breastwork round a Store House.

The Winipagoe Indians without exception, attempted to storm it & lost a Chief & three men on the spot, four are wounded & one of them (I fear) mortally.

They are enraged against the backwardness of the Canadians, and the base conduct of the Sacks, who have been debauched by the Rebels on account of their lead mines, & by the Traders in their Country, who drew advantage from them.

Indorsed: "Copy. Extracts of Letters from L<sup>t</sup> Gov<sup>r</sup> Sinclair to L<sup>t</sup> Col. Bolton."