

to the renards on this point, it would not be difficult to induce The latter to make peace. I employ every means to attain this end, by ordering all the Commandants of the posts to work Efficaciously for that object; and if, after trying gentle means, they cannot succeed in doing so, to urge all the nations to assemble Together to Exterminate the renards. Such, Monsieur, are my sentiments to which I shall devote particular attention.

I am very glad of The arrival of the sieurs St. ange, father And son;<sup>1</sup> but I am surprised that you should think of removing Sieur de Vincennes from my Government, and that you should have Undertaken to make him leave a post where his presence is most necessary, on account of the Esteem in which he is held by the savage nations at that post—which, as you know, is not at all within the jurisdiction of the Mississipy Government.<sup>2</sup> I would be very sorry to be compelled to lay

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<sup>1</sup>Jean de (originally Grosson *dit*) St. Ange de Bellerive was a veteran officer in the French troops, having served since at least 1685. It is probably he who escorted Charlevoix through the West in 1721; and in the following year, when commandant at Fort Chartres, cut to pieces a large body of Fox Indians. In 1724, he was major at New Orleans; and in 1733 was again in command of Fort Chartres. His second son, Louis, was at New Orleans in 1724, and at Kaskaskia in 1727; later, he was in charge of a French post on the Missouri river, but in 1736 was sent as commandant to Post Vincennes, which office he held until 1764. In that year he took command of Fort Chartres, which he delivered up to the English on Oct. 14, 1765; he then removed to St. Louis (which had been founded in the preceding year by Pierre Laclède), and was commandant there until 1770 (in the Spanish service, after 1766). He died there, Dec. 26, 1774.—Ed.

<sup>2</sup>A reference to Post Ouitanon (near the present city of Lafayette, Ind.), founded about 1719 (see Vaudreuil's orders to Dubuisson, p. 382. *ante*). The Vincennes here referred to was François Morgane, a nephew of J. B. Bissot (p. 228, *note 2, ante*), and successor to the latter's title; it is François who later founded Post Vincennes. See J. P. Dunn's *Indiana*, pp. 49-55; and Oscar J. Craig's "Ouitanon," in *Indiana Historical Society's Publications*, ii, pp. 317-348.

The district of Illinois was separated from the jurisdiction of Canada, and added to that of Louisiana, in 1717; but there was frequent wrangling among the respective colonial authorities, in regard to the more distant posts situated on tributaries of the Mississippi. See Vaudreuil's statement of the boundaries between the two governments, in Margry's *Découv. et établ.*, vi, p. 511.—Ed.