

would alienate the affections of the Indians, and of [from] Friends make them bitter Enemys, which they will doubtless prove to us if the Grant is attempted to be enforced.

---

1765: BRITISH IN THE ILLINOIS

[Summary of documents on affairs in the Illinois, and the British occupation.]

[Sir William Johnson having conciliated the northern tribesmen at the treaty of Niagara in 1764, and Col. Henry Bouquet having secured peace with the Delawares and Shawnee of the Ohio, it was determined to send George Croghan, deputy Indian agent, to attempt a peace with the tribes of the Wabash and Illinois, who were still under Pontiac's influence, and had deceived Bradstreet with pretended overtures for pardon. Croghan arrived at Fort Pitt early in the spring of 1765, but was detained until May 15 by important conferences with the tribesmen. Meanwhile, Lieut. Alexander Fraser had gone in advance, with only three companions. Although reaching Kaskaskia in safety, he was there in such danger that his life was spared only by Pontiac's interference, and he escaped to Mobile in disguise.<sup>83</sup> Croghan was captured below the Wabash, and carried prisoner to Ouiatanon, where he succeeded in reconciling the Kickapoo, Mascoutin, and Miami, and procuring his liberty. On the way to the Illinois he encountered Pontiac, with whom he made a definitive treaty of peace, and therefore turned back to Detroit, where in councils from August 17-

---

<sup>83</sup>Lieut. Alexander Fraser, formerly of the 78th infantry, was detailed to accompany Croghan, because of his knowledge of the French language. He rashly urged to be allowed to go in advance. Concerning his adventure, see his letter of May 20, from Kaskaskia, in *Mich. Pion. and Hist. Colls.*, x, pp. 216-218.—Ed.