

Savages that they regard you As The meanest of wretches, saying everything against you and all the People of the Illinois advising the Savages to Pillage all those who Come from there, consequently I have not yet gone from here, I could not probably Withdraw without losing money, because of the Counsel of these rascals.⁷

To Monsieur G. R. Clark commandant in chief of the troops of the United States of America in the department of the Illinois, at Kaskaskia.

1780: SPANISH REPORT OF ATTACK ON ST. LOUIS

[Letter from Martin Navarro to José de Galvez,⁸ dated Aug. 13, 1780. MS. in Archives of the Indies, Seville; pressmark, "Papeles procedientes de la Isla de Cuba."]

YOUR EXCELLENCY—While we were under the belief that the English had been falsely charged with the atrocities committed in North America upon persons of all classes in that continent by the hands of the various savage tribes who followed their banners, there was given a most amazing proof of the fact by Captain Esse⁹ at the head of three hundred regular troops and

⁷ For the inception of this expedition against St. Louis and the Illinois settlements, see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xi, p. 145, note 1. The plan was a comprehensive one, ordered from England, and included the capture of the Spanish settlements by a joint expedition from Mobile at the south and Mackinac on the north. The southern campaign failed, because of the activity of the Spanish governor of Louisiana, Bernardo de Galvez. The northern expedition, gathering at Prairie du Chien, advanced as far as St. Louis; see documents *post*. Sinclair's activity in arousing the Western tribesmen is evidenced by his letters, *Ibid*, pp. 144-152.—ED.

⁸ Martin Navarro was Spanish intendant of Louisiana, from the beginning of the Spanish regime until his retirement in 1788. His letter is addressed to Don José de Galvez, president of the Council of the Indies in Spain, and uncle of the Louisiana governor.—ED.

⁹ Emanuel Hesse was appointed lieutenant of the Royal Americans (Feb. 17, 1756), probably from the province of Pennsylvania. By 1759