

wish. Consequently, it is necessary for me to petition Your Lordship to deign to quickly despatch Messrs. Choteau and Serré²⁰ in order that I may be able to know the news and provisions of Your Lordship which the citizens of all these settlements desire so ardently, and which I consider very favorable for obtaining the ends which I desire.

May God preserve Your Lordship for many years.

Your most humble servant kisses Your Lordship's hands.

FRANCISCO CRUZAT.

SAN LUIS DE YLINNESES, December 19, 1780.

Don Bernardo de Galvez.

1781: WARNING TO TRADERS

[Letter from Sinclair, probably to Langlade.²¹ Translated from original MS. in Wisconsin Historical Library.]

MICHELIMAKINAC January 30th, 1781.

SIR—The Chief Object Mr Campion²² had in view in setting out on his Journey was to warn the Traders in the West of the Attempts made by the Enemy to pillage the Goods and Mer-

²⁰ Jean Gabriel Cerré, later the father-in-law of Auguste Chouteau, had been the most prominent merchant of British Illinois. Born in Canada in 1734, he came to Kaskaskia in 1755, and there married Catherine Giard. When Clark captured Kaskaskia, Cerré was absent on a trading voyage; but he soon returned, and gave his allegiance to the Americans. In 1779 he bought a lot in St. Louis and soon removed his family thither, dying there April 4, 1800. See *Missouri Hist. Colls.*, ii, No. 2, pp. 58-76.—Ed.

²¹ There is no superscription to this letter; but both from the circumstance of its being found among the Langlade papers, and the general context, we infer that it was written to Langlade.—Ed.

²² Etienne Campion and his brother Alexis were natives of Montreal and prominent merchants in the upper country. They secured licenses for Western trade in 1778. Etienne was near St. Josephs when, in 1780, that place was attacked by the Cahokians sent by De la Balme. Campion gathered the Indians and pursued and defeated the invaders not