

American commandant is requested to observe article 5 of the treaty of friendship and boundaries.

At the same time [De Lassus] learned that the English were about to hold a council with the Indian tribes at the Straits of the Lake of Santa Clara [St. Clair] and as the greater part of them inhabit American territory, he also wrote to the commandants of the posts of the United States, namely Vincennes,⁹¹ Michilimackina, and others, despatching the letters by two faithful habitants with orders to ascertain at the same time and communicate whatever they can discover in regard to this matter. Each one of them was promised a pay of two hundred pesos and the storekeeper of those posts was ordered to provide victuals for two months for the number of six hundred men. De Lassus made ready artillery, arms, and ammunition, and advised the commandants of that jurisdiction to have their militia ready, for whom he sent guns, taking as many military dispositions as have appeared suitable for the defense of those remote countries.

The Lieutenant-Governor, Lassus, was very confident of obtaining the success of his preparations, their own defense and that of their possessions and families being an incentive to those habitants, which has made them show generally in the review the most ready and effective determination so that all the citizens of the capital city of San Luis, even those past sixty years have presented themselves with their carabines, thus giving a good example to the young men. It is believed that, if the crisis comes, the greatest difficulty will be to restrain these so that they may not exhibit too great rashness. The letter con-

⁹¹ The colonel of militia at Vincennes (appointed by St. Clair in 1800) was Francis Vigo, a Sardinian, who after resigning from the Spanish army entered the fur-trade, with headquarters at St. Louis. There he came into relations with George Rogers Clark, and assisted him with funds and information. Some time after Clark's campaigns, Vigo became an American citizen, and settled at Vincennes, where he took active part in building up the new government, being member of the territorial assembly as well as colonel of militia. He died at an advanced age in 1836. His claims were paid by the United States government to his heirs, in 1875.—Ed.