

A solid establishment would be useful to the colony, but it would be very inconvenient to sustain it because of the difficulties of the road by which to transport provisions and other requisites. I doubt whether it could be accomplished without incurring great expense. I believe myself under obligations because of the knowledge I have acquired of all these parts to place these reflections at the end of my journal, which can be used as may be thought best.

Signed: CÉLORON.

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1750: CONSPIRACY IN THE ILLINOIS

[Letter from the commandant of the Illinois<sup>95</sup> to Captain Raymond at Fort Miami, dated Fort Chartres, Feb. 11, 1750. MS. in Archives Coloniales, Paris; pressmark, "Canada, Correspondence générale, C 11, vol. 97, fol. 392."]

MONSIEUR—I have The honor to give You Notice of a Conspiracy which is being planned Against Us since last summer at The instigation of The English man,<sup>96</sup> who is making use of La demoiselle, chief of the miamis who have withdrawn to La Riviere à la Roche. He has given messages [paroles] to have us attacked both by the Nations of Ouabache, and by

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<sup>95</sup> For this officer see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xvii, p. 428.—Ed.

<sup>96</sup> The Englishman whose influence over the Indians was feared, and probably exaggerated by the French, was no doubt George Croghan. He had traded at Pickawillany before this time, and in 1750 the French offered a reward for his scalp; see Darlington, *Gist's Journals*, p. 44. Croghan was Irish born, settling in Pennsylvania at an early age, and entering the Indian trade. The French and Indian War ruined his commerce in the far West, but brought him into notice as an Indian agent. In this capacity he was employed by Sir William Johnson until the American Revolution. His loyalty to the Colonial cause was somewhat doubted. He died in Pennsylvania in 1782. For a more extended biographical notice, see "Croghan's Journal," in Thwaites, *Early Western Travels*, i, pp. 47-57.—Ed.