

hereof no pretence shall be made to trespass upon the Effects or property of Individuals. Given under my hand & seal at Kaskaskia, the 5th June, 1779, in the 3rd year of the Commonwealth.*

Letter to the Court of Kaskaskia: [page 12]

11th June, 1779.

Gentlemen:—The only method America has to support the present just War is by her Credit. That Credit at present is her Bills emitted from the different Treasuries by which she engages to pay the Bearer at a certain time Gold & Silver in Exchange. There is no friend to American Independance who has any Judgment but soon expects to see it equal to Gold & Silver. Some disaffected persons & designing Speculators discredit it through Enmity or Interest; the ignorant multitude have not Sagacity enough to examine into this matter, & merely from its uncommon Quantity & in proportion to it arises the Complaint of its want of Credit.

This has for some years been the Case near the Seat of War; the disorder has spread at last as far as the Illinois & calls loudly for a Remedy. In the interior

* Richard McCarty was a resident of Cahokia while it was under British control, and in February, 1777, wrote an humble letter to the commandant, Rocheblave, apparently to defend himself against even the suspicion of disloyalty. But when Clark levied the force to march from Kaskaskia against the British post at Vincennes, McCarty led a company of volunteers, who were nearly all of French descent, from Cahokia to join that expedition, and rendered good service. In August, 1779, he was appointed commandant at Cahokia under the authority of Virginia, and in November, 1780, Todd, writing to Gov. Jefferson, says: "McCarty, a captain in the Illinois Regiment who has long since rendered himself disagreeable by endeavoring to enforce Military law upon the Civil Department at Kohos." He appears to have had a tract of land at Cahokia, and is one of those named in the report made in 1809, by the commissioners appointed by congress, as a claimant under "Ancient Grants" in the district of Kaskaskia.—E. G. M.