

to punish the foolish who had dipped their hands in the blood of the whites. Recall, then, well in your minds, my children, what the two grand chiefs, Messrs. Montcalm and Marin* said before their death—to adhere to the same tree, that they had always held to. Although that tree was a little bent, caused by a storm that had passed through your lands, yet you will see it one day erect, its branches rise and spread above all other trees. That period has now come. The tree I speak of, is your ancient father, the French. You see, my children, that he is up, that he does not wish to see the blood of his children, the red skin, shed. He extends his hand to you, without fear. Yes, my children, your fathers, the French and the Spanish, have always been but one; as you have heard it said, so you now see it. Know, then, when you shake hands with the French, you shake also with the Spanish; and when you shake hands with the Spanish, you also shake hands with the French—since those two nations are upon the earth to protect you, and to teach you the will of the Master of life. You well know, my children, that I have recommended you to remain quiet upon your lands, to provide for your wives and children, and not to take part in the war between the whites. I repeat again to day the same advice, remain quiet. I do not wish to see your blood flow into your rivers. But I wish that the waters of the Mississippi should remain clear and blue, and its channel be without any obstruction. Then, my children, be quiet. When you hear any thing evil said of your brethren the French and the Spaniards, come and tell me, as you have promised me. You shall have in me a good father, who will receive and embrace you, so long as you shall remain his children.

Your True Father, the Spaniard,

CRUZAT.

AT ST. LOUIS, OF THE ILLINOIS, NOV. 20, 1781.

* Doubtless Capt. Morand, mentioned in Mr. Grignon's Recollections in this volume.