

I have determined with the consent of his nation, to send you, the grand chief of the Illinois of Rock village.¹ His name is Chachagonache. He is a good man, and has much authority; and I trust, Sir, that you will induce him to make peace with the Miamis.

The affair is of very great consequence, the Miamis having sent me word, that they should abandon their village and build another on the Oyou, in the fond of Lake Erie.² It is precisely where the English are about to erect a fort, according to the belts they have sent to the different nations. They also said, that they would be contented, if you sent them, Sir, a garrison and a Rev. Father, a Jesuit; and some presents, that they say you promised them.

Mikisabie, the Potawatamie chief, has much influence over the mind of this Illinois chief. He goes with him. Joseph, who accompanies them, deserves your kindness. I have had much trouble to save his life. I venture, Sir, to request, that you would take care that the Indians, who are with Mr. De Vincennes, return contented; their visit secures this post. Saguina has complained to me that Mr. Desliettes³ would not wait for him last spring, believing it was through contempt.

Poor Otchipouac died this winter. It is a great loss to us, for he had much firmness, and was well disposed toward the French. We have another difficult affair, which threatens to give us much trouble. The Kickapoos, who live at the mouth of the Maumee River, are about to make war upon us, now that our allies have left us; about thirty Mascoutins have joined them. A canoe of Kickapoos, who came here to speak to the three villages, has been defeated by the Hurons and Ottawas.

¹Reference is here made to the Illinois village located near La Salle's fort (St. Louis, on "Starved Rock;" see p. 100, *ante*, note).—Ed.

²There must be at this point some error or omission in the transcription of the original document. Allusion is apparently made to the place where the Miamis later formed a settlement, in the bend of the Maumee river where now stands the city of Fort Wayne, Ind.; not far from that place was a portage by which easy communication could be had with the Ohio river (the name of which was early spelled Oyo).—Ed.

³A relative of Henry de Tonty, and long prominent in military and Indian affairs in the West.—Ed.