

1742: OTTAWA AT MONTREAL

[Source, same as preceding document, but vol. 77, fols. 158, 153, 160, 155.]

*Speech of the Outaouacs of Missilimakinac, of the band of la fourche, Sinagos and Kiskakons to Monsieur the Marquis de Beauharnois, Governor-General of New France, June 16, 1742.*

My Father, we come to thank you for all the kindness you have shown us in having sent Monsieur de Celoron to Govern us. It was not without necessity, because we had no more Sense and were scattered.

My Father, Monsieur de Celoron has gathered us all together at one of the three places you had indicated. We chose l'arbre Croche (the Crooked tree), where we found the land good and advantageous. He kindled our fire for us there and we at once began to make clearings. That fire will never die out; we shall all have the pleasure of warming ourselves there in peace and tranquility with our wives and our Children, And of seeing the Sparks fly up to the Sky.

My Father, we likewise thank you for the great Flag you gave us in addition to the fire, to be planted in our new village. The Nations that pass our way will easily see that our Father has distinguished our village by that Flag.

My Father, we again thank you for the mat you caused to be Spread for us by Monsieur de Celoron, that we might sit on it near that fire; we shall take care to live there quietly, and they who come after us will never leave it.

My Father, for fifteen years one Amiot,<sup>1</sup> married to a Sakise, has been Settled at Missilimakinac working at his trade of armorer and blacksmith with the Jesuit Fathers, who keep back from him one half the proceeds of his labor; this makes it impossible for him to provide for the subsist-

<sup>1</sup> Joseph Jean Baptiste Amyot-Vincelot, son of Charles Joseph A.-V., seigneur of Cape St. Ignace, was born in 1697; his marriage took place in 1719.—Ed.