

*Reply of Monsieur the Marquis de Beauharnois, Governor-general of New France, to the Speech of the Outaouacs of Saguinan, June 24, 1742.*

My Children, I am delighted at your having Listened attentively to the message I Sent you in your village by Monsieur de Blainville.

My Children, he fulfilled my intentions when he barred the road to the English to you, because I am very glad that my Children of Saguinan should have but one heart with mine.

You have given me pleasure, My Children, by coming to see me and Listen to my word. What I have to say to you is that I ask you to go no more to the English, and to persuade your young men to come here for what you need, and to drink (suck) my milk, since it pleases you. You know that a Father is always pleased to see his Children near him, and that his hands are ever open to give them fresh tokens of his affection.

My Children, I thank you for having braved all dangers to come and see me. I thank the master of life for having preserved you amid those you have encountered. I will replace your Canoe that was broken.

My Children, as you Had never come down here, I have been very happy to have the pleasure of seeing you. The assurance you give me on behalf of all your village that you will never do anything but my will, was what I expected from Children as submissive as you Are; but I wished to learn it from yourselves, and, as I am convinced that you speak to me with a sincere heart, I open mine to you to tell you that I will always hold you by the hand, and will never abandon you.

My Children, I have pity on you; I give you the blacksmith you ask; he is the eldest son of Amiot of Missilimakinac. I have given orders to Monsieur de Vercheres to hand him over to you as you pass, so that you may Take him with you to your village.

To thee, Achaouabemé, in consequence of the good reports that have been made to me regarding thy conduct and thy bravery, I give this Mark of distinction, which the King