

My Children, in future have no ears to Hear evil discourses; never Listen to any words but mine, and those that may be carried to you on my behalf.

My Children, I am surprised that you should still speak of the death of le Corbeau [the Raven]. You must be aware of all I have done to have that unfortunate affair buried deep down in the earth. You renew my sorrow because I loved him greatly and he was attached to me. I think your hearts are not inclined to evil.

My Children, I grant you the blacksmith you ask; nobody shall receive any remuneration from him; I do not think anybody has. I will order him to work for you at cheap rates.

My Children, I remember well that when last you came to see me, I told you to come back The following year. I know that you went on the war-path against the Chicachas, and this Prevented your doing so. You will give me pleasure by continuing and I will reward your zeal.

My Children, I know you complained to Monsieur Coulon,¹ because I had Sent you no presents, and that I had Sent some to the Ouyatanons, Kikapoux, and Maskoutins. I am very happy to tell you that I treat all my Children Alike so that there may be no jealousy Between them. What I Sent those three Nations, was in answer to several messages they had sent me.

You must know that I never Send presents to the Posts lest they be lost, as has frequently happened. Moreover, it pleases me that my Children receive them from my hand.

My Children, I give you proofs of my affection; I Send some of my Milk to your village with presents, and wherewith to smoke peacefully on your mats.

My Children, I am sorry to Be obliged to tell you that you continue to go and get bad Milk from the English, which spoils your hearts and your Minds, and Prevents you from paying your debts. I am informed that they give you bad impressions. Therefore, my Children, I shall not be pleased with you if you

¹Louis Coulon de Villiers; see *ante*, p. 128, note 1.—Ed.