

In a letter of the 18th of September, M^r de Celoron notifies M^r de la Jonquière that no dependence is to be placed on the Indians for any expedition, although Mikinae⁵⁴ had assured him that nothing but the fear of the smallpox had stopped him, and that all the villages will march in the spring, if forces be sent. Finally M^r de Celoron states in his last letter, that he cannot say anything positively respecting the nations of his post, as he had not seen them since their departure for their winter grounds.

M^r de Ligneris, Commandant at the Ouyatanons, believes that great reliance is not to be placed on the Maskoutins, and that their remaining neutral is all that is to be expected from them and the Kispapous.⁵⁵ He even adds that we are not to reckon on the nations which appear in our interests; no Ouyatanon Chief has appeared at his post for a long time, although they had promised to inform him of all that they knew.

M^r de Villiers, Commandant at the Miamis,⁵⁶ has been disappointed in his expectation of bringing the Miamis back from the White River, part of whom had been to see him, the smallpox having put the whole of them to the route. Coldfoot and his son have died of it, as well as a large portion of our most trusty Indians. *Le Gris*, Chief of the Tepicons,⁵⁷ and his mother, are likewise dead; they are a loss because they were well disposed towards the French.

The Nations of the River St. Joseph, who were to join those of Detroit, have said that they would be ready to perform their promise as soon as Onontio would have sent the necessary number of Frenchmen. The Commandant of this post writes on the 15th of January that all the Nations appear to take sides against us, that he would not be responsible for the good dis-

⁵⁴ For this chief see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xvii, p. 389. He died at Detroit during the winter of 1754-55.—ED.

⁵⁵ A misreading for Kickapoo, the tribe allied with the Mascoutin, who at this period were settled near the Ouyatanon post.—ED.

⁵⁶ Louis Coulon de Villiers, for whom see *ante*, p. 46, note 82.—ED.

⁵⁷ For data relative to this clan of the Miami, see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xvii, p. 485.—ED.