

maintain your wives and children, ought to prove to you the attachment that I have for you and the sincerity of my sentiments. I forget what you have done and I bury it in the depths of the earth, in order nevermore to recall it, persuaded that you have done nothing but at the instigation of people whose policy is to trouble the earth and to spoil the spirit of those with whom they communicate, and who, without appearing therein themselves, profiting by the unfortunate ascendancy that you have allowed them to gain over you, have caused you to commit faults and engaged you in evil affairs, in order to ruin you in my estimation. It is to enlighten you that I send you my word, listen well and give good heed thereto, my children; it is the word of a father who loves you and has your interests at heart. By these two branches of porcelain I put out the two fires that you have lighted within the past two years at Rock River and White River, I extinguish them in such a manner that there will not appear even a single spark."

By a collar to la Demoiselle and one to le Baril.

"My children, I come to say to you by these branches of porcelain that I extinguish the two fires that you have lighted within the past two years at Rock River and at White River. By these collars I raise you from your mats, and take you by the hand to bring you to Kikakon, where I relight your fire and make it more enduring than ever. It is in that land, my children, that you will enjoy perfect tranquility and that I shall be present at each instant to give you the marks of my friendship; it is in that land, my children, that you will enjoy the pleasures of life, being the *spot where repose the bones of your ancestors, and those of Monsieur de Vincennes, whom you loved so well and who governed you always* in such manner that your affairs always went well.⁹¹ If you have forgotten the

⁹¹ For this officer see *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xvi, p. 228, xvii, p. 29. It was the elder Vincennes, who is here referred to; the younger, founder of Post Vincennes having been burned by the Chickasaw in 1736. The elder Vincennes was the founder of Fort Miami, and of great influence among the tribe of that name.—Ed.