

"Father, we thank you for assembling your officers to listen to our discourse.

"Father, we have observed with some degree of jealousy the establishment of a place at Michilimackinac, at which (missionary school) the children of our great father (Indians) are taught the means of living in the same way the whites do, where they also learn to *mark their thoughts* on paper, and to think the *news from books* (to read and write) as you do; we have heard too, my father, something which gives us hopes that our great father will give us the means to live as the white people do.

"Father, our young men who carried your papers to York last winter, tell us, that our brethren about that place, who, like ourselves, were great drunkards, and bad people, are now become sober and industrious. The Great Spirit favours them because they know how to ask his blessing. I am sure if our fathers at York and at Quebec were acquainted with the misery and hardships we undergo, they would teach us how to be beloved of the Great Spirit (to become civilized), and we would be more happy.

"Father, our great father at York has given our brethren the means to cut up the ground, (plough), and has taught them to cultivate the land; how they are favored; we wish he would favor us in the same way.

"Father, we might send our children to Mackinac, to get sense, (be instructed) but we are not big knives, (Americans) therefore we wish you would deliver this our parole to our father at York, with your own hands, and tell him our wants. You have been a long time with us, and know our misery. Tell him we want such a house and good people as they have at Michilimackinac, to teach us to read and write, and to work; we have arms, as well as the whites, but we do not know how to use them. Our hearts are dark, we want them made white (become Christians); how we should laugh to see our daughters milking cows, and making dresses for us, and to see the young men beating iron, and making shoes for each other.

"Father, tell our father that we squeeze him hard by the hand, and trust that he will assist us; tell him we want some hoes and spades to dig with; don't leave our father until you get him to say yes."

At another meeting in the same year, another speaks for the Chippeways:

"Our native brothers are desirous of forming a settlement, and we avail ourselves of this opportunity to address our great father on a subject of such deep interest to our tribe.

"Father, listen to your children.

"It is our desire to come together; many of us have thrown aside our former habits, and wish to adopt the habits of civilized life, to become Christians, and to worship that God which is known to the whites in the Good Book.

[Delivers two strings of white wampum.]

"Father, should our great father agree, we are desirous of being settled together, we shall then be enabled to pursue a regular system of agriculture, and greater facilities will be afforded us in following the precepts of our religious teachers. Those that have embraced Christianity already feel its happy effects.

The Yellow head delivered an address for the women to the same purport.

[Two strings white wampum.]

"He also delivered an address for the children to the same effect."

These sentiments are consistent with our experience of many In-