

1730.

were punished; the three most guilty were given up to the Choctaws, who burned them with an inhumanity which gave all the other negroes such a horror of the Indians as to make them more docile and more faithful.<sup>1</sup> The Yazoo, Corrois and Tioux, were not more fortunate than the Natchez. The Akansas fell on them and made a perfect massacre; of the two former nations, only fifteen Indians remained, who hastened to join the Natchez; the Tioux were all killed to a man.

The Chickasaws in vain tempt the fidelity of our allies.

About the same time it was discovered that the Chickasaws, after a useless attempt to draw the Akansas and Tonicas into the general conspiracy, had applied also, but with as little success, to the Illinois; these Indians replying curtly, that as they were all Christians, the Chickasaws must never expect to detach them from the French; that they would always place themselves between them and their enemies, who would have to trample over their dead bodies before they could touch one of the French. They soon after learned what had been done at the Natchez and Yazoo, and at once two troops of Mitchigamias and Kaskasquias, led by the two head chiefs of those two Illinois tribes, descended to New Orleans, to bewail the missionaries who had perished in that massacre, and offer the General all who depended on them to avenge the French. Mr. Perrier gave them audience with much pomp, and they spoke as Christians and faithful allies, in a manner that charmed all. Nor did they edify the whole city less by their piety and the correctness of their conduct, and they took leave of the General, promising him to guard well their own country, and all the upper part of the river.

The English as unsuccessful.

Mr. Perrier next learned that the English had earnestly exhorted the Choctaws to declare against us, and supported their solicitations by large presents, and he wrote to the Minister that, placed as he was, he needed a prompt assistance; that the employment of Indians would cost

<sup>1</sup> Father le Petit, Letter, July 12, 1730. (Kip,) p. 301.