

All the world knows¹ the loss sustained by the colony in 1736, in the persons of the brave Chevalier d'Artaguet and a great number of officers of merit, and the noble action of the Jesuit Father Senat, who preferred to expose himself to the certain peril of being taken and burned by the Chickasaws, as he really was, rather than not assist to their latest breath the wounded who could not retreat or even be transported by those who did. This retreat, which was the work of a young man of sixteen, named Voisin, may be regarded as a masterpiece in point of skill and bravery. Pursued for twenty-five leagues, he lost, indeed, many men, but it cost the enemy dearly, and he besides marched forty-five leagues without food, his men carrying in their arms the wounded who were able to bear transportation. Almost all² those who in this affair fell into the enemies' hands, and who were quite numerous, were burned in the most barbarous manner, with the missionary, who was not the only one to exhort the companions of his torture to do honor by their courage and patience, to their religion and their nation. The Sieur de Vincennes,³ a Canadian gentleman and officer in the army,

1736.

Noble action of a Jesuit and skilful retreat of an officer of sixteen years of age.

¹ Charlevoix evidently refers to some publication of the day, probably Drouet de Richarville's *Récit*, describing the fate of Father Antoine Senat, but I have never been able to find it. Senat refused a horse when offered him, preferring to remain with the dying. *Bannissement des Jésuites de la Louisiane*, Carayon, Documents Inédits, xiv., p. 24. Dumont, *Memoires*, ii., pp. 230-1. Adair, *History of the American Indians*, p. 154, seems to allude to this, and makes Senat's death to have been caused by Indian superstition. He says the English traders tried to save the victims. See p. 354 for his account of the Chickasaw War. This affair was a mere episode in this ill-managed campaign, which Charlevoix

does not attempt here to chronicle. See *Le Page du Pratz*, iii., pp. 401-426. *Journal de la Guerre du Mississippi contre les Chicachas en 1739 et finie en 1740 le 1er d'Avril par un Officier de l'Armée de M. de Nouaille*. New York, 1859.

² Drouet de Richardville, whose three brothers were killed, by the help of the English traders, reached Georgia, where Oglethorpe paid his ransom and gave him a passport, by which he reached Montreal June 10, 1739. Bossu, ii., p. 109, says that Sergeant Louis Gamot was ransomed by the English and was at Charleston in 1750.

³ D'Artaguet was shot down, and Vincennes was taken while endeavoring to carry him off. The Chick-