

French whom he might meet coming down the river, to be on their guard.¹ 1729.

This man found the capital in great alarm; news of the massacre had already reached it by the first who had escaped, and great fear was entertained for the French settlers among the Yazoos. On his testimony they were somewhat relieved, but this did not last long. On the 11th of December, the Jesuit Father Souel, who was missionary to the Yazoos, then mingled in the same village with the Corrois and Offogoulas, when returning in the evening from visiting the chief of the Yazoos, received several musket-shots as he was crossing a river, and expired on the spot. His murderers at once ran to his cabin to plunder it. His negro, recently baptized, and who lived quite piously, attempted to defend himself with a woodcutter's knife, and even wounded an Indian, but he was at once pierced with thrusts.

The same happens at the Yazoos.

Father Souel was much beloved by these Indians, but they rebelled at his constantly reproaching them with the infamous sin which brought destruction on Sodom, and to which they were greatly addicted; and there is every probability that this was the main cause of his death; for although the Yazoos and Corrois had already resolved to exterminate all the French, the very men who had slain the missionary reproached themselves with his death as soon as their blood cooled. They however soon recovered their natural ferocity, and began to cry that as the Chief of the Prayer was dead, no Frenchman must be spared.

Causes of the death of Father Souel.

Early the next morning they proceeded to the fort, which was only a league from their village. On seeing them approach it was supposed that they were coming to chant the calumet to the Chevalier des Roches, who commanded in the absence of du Codere; for although it

Fidelity of the Offogoulas.

¹ For this massacre, the contemporary accounts are Perrier's dispatch, March 18, 1730, in Gayarré, i., pp. 242-251. Father le Petit to Futher d'Avaugour, July 12, 1730,

in the Lettres Edifiantes—Kip's Jesuit Missions, pp. 265-312. Carayon, Documents Inédits, xiv., pp. 22-4. Adair, History of American Indians, pp. 353-4.