

On the morning of the 28th, I slept rather late, owing to the fatigue of the preceding day. My brother-in-law awakened me, and told me the people had got into some difficulty, and that they wished me to come out, and see if I could not settle it. I went out on the gallery, and enquired what the difficulty was; and heard the various plans and projects of defence proposed by different persons. Some objected to staying in the village, and protecting the property of the villagers, while theirs, outside the village, was equally exposed to the pillage of the Indians. Others were for remaining and fortifying where they were, and others still urged the repairing of the old fort. As the eminence on which my house stood overlooked the most of the Prairie, some were for concentrating our people there, and fortifying it. After hearing these different projects, I addressed them something as follows: "As to your fortifying my house, you can do so, if it is thought best, but I do not wish you to go there to protect it; I have abandoned it, and if the Indians burn it, so be it; but there is one thing, if we intend to protect ourselves from the Indians, we must keep together and some one must command."

Some one then nominated me as commander, but I said, "No, I would not attempt to command you, but here is Thomas McNair, who holds from the governor a commission of captain over the militia of this place, and has a right to command; if you will agree to obey him implicitly, I will set the example of obedience to his orders, and will, in that case, furnish you with powder and lead so long as you want to shoot (I being the only person having those articles in the place); but unless you agree to obey McNair, I will put my family and goods into my boats and go down the river, as I will not risk myself with a mob, under no control."—Upon this they immediately agreed to acknowledge Mr. McNair as commander, and I was satisfied that he would take advice upon all measures undertaken. Joseph Brisbois was lieutenant, and Jean Brunet was ensign, both duly commissioned by the governor. Captain McNair ordered a move of all the families, goods,