

warrior had stealthily entered the village and set on fire the frail bark dwellings on the windward side, which were soon wrapped in a sheet of flame. The Foxes in vain sought safety in the forest; but were met by the party which had flanked their retreat, and they found themselves placed between two hostile fires. Then burst forth one heart-rending, agonized shriek, and the devoted band of free-booting Indians prepared to defend themselves with a courage born of despair. Ball and bayonet now began their bloody work, and the tomahawk and scalping knife were active participants in the terrible work of death. No quarter was asked, and none was given. The time occupied by this bloody tragedy was not long; but in its strategy, surprise and sanguinary execution it probably has no parallel in the annals of Indian warfare. Most of the Foxes were killed or taken prisoners, but a few escaped up the river, and others were absent at the time of the engagement.

The same season the remnant of this savage tribe having been driven from their village at the Little Butte des Morts, took post about three miles above the Great Butte des Morts, on the southern or opposite side of the river.

In May of the same year, Du Buisson, who commanded at Mackinaw, left that post with six hundred men, among whom were fifty Frenchmen, to complete the extermination of the Foxes, so effectually commenced two months before. Marin went with him. The only account of this expedition which is known to exist is the traditionary one that a severe battle took place at the Great Butte des Morts, and many Foxes were killed, though not so many as at the Little Butte des Morts, and that they were again forced to fly.

From a more authentic account, it appears that in September, 1730, an attack was made on the Foxes by a force under the command of Sieur De Villiers, consisting of twelve or thirteen hundred men, including Indians, which resulted in the almost total defeat of the Foxes. Two hundred of their warriors were killed, or burned, after being taken as slaves, and six hundred women and children were destroyed.

The surviving Foxes located themselves on the northern bank