

by the Mendeouacantons; and to have pity on his brethren, by giving them powder and ball to defend themselves against their enemies, and to give life to his wives and children who were wasting with hunger in the midst of a country full of all kinds of beasts, having nothing to kill them with. "Behold!" added this chief, pointing to the dead chief's wives and children, "Behold thy children, thy brethren, thy sisters; it is for thee to see whether thou wishest them to live or die. They will live if thou givest them powder and ball; on the contrary, they will die if thou refuse it." All these reasons were not needed to induce Mr. Le Sueur to yield to their request; but as the Scioux never answer on the spot, especially in important matters, and as he had to speak to them about his establishment, he left the cabin without saying anything. The chief and all those who were within followed him to the gate of the fort, and after he went in they made the circuit of the fort three times, weeping and crying at the top of their voices "*Athéouanan*"—which means, "My father, take pity on us."

The next day he assembled in the fort the most eminent men of both villages; and, as it is impossible to subdue the Scioux or to prevent their going to war, except by inducing them to cultivate the ground, he told them that if they wished to render themselves worthy of the king's protection, they must abandon their errant life and come and form a village around his settlement, where they would be sheltered from the attacks of their enemies. He said that, to facilitate their means of leading a happy life there, and to save them from the pangs of hunger, he would give them all the corn necessary to plant a good deal of ground; that the king, their chief and his, when sending him, had forbidden him to trade in beaver-skins, knowing that this hunt obliged them to scatter, and exposed them to be killed by their enemies; that in consequence he had come to settle on Blue river, the neighborhood of which, as they had several times assured him, was full of all kinds of beasts, for the skins of which the French would supply all their wants. He told them that they should reflect that they could not do without the goods of the French, and that the only means not to be deprived of them was not to make war on nations allied