

One of their parties entered my fort, in order to kill one of the inhabitants named Lagmenesse [probably La Jennessé], and a daughter of Roy, another inhabitant. I could then no longer restrain myself, but took arms to prevent their accomplishing their object. I compelled them to retire immediately from the vicinity of the fort, in order not to give them time to strengthen their party, as they expected the Kickapoos, their allies, that they might together execute their nefarious project; hoping to be strong enough to retire without loss among the English and Iroquois. They waited but for a favorable moment to set fire to the fort.

But they were alarmed when they learned that the party of Mascoutins, who had wintered upon the heads of the St. Joseph, had been cut off to the number of fifty men, women and children by Saguinaw, a war chief of the Ottawas and Pottawatamies. They immediately determined to set fire to an Ottawa cabin, which was close by the gate of my fort. I was informed of their intention by an Ottagamie Indian, named Joseph, who long since left his people and came to reside among us. It was from him that I learned all that passed in the Ottagamie and Mascoutins village. He had the honor to be presented to you, Sir, last year at Montreal. He informed me of the intention to set fire to my fort, and I immediately sent an express canoe to the hunting grounds of the Ottawas and Hurons, to request them to join me as soon as possible. I sent also another canoe to the other side of the lake, to invite the Chippeways and Mississaugas to join us.

The church and the house of Mr. Mullet were outside of the four of them into the redoubt, I had just constructed. I placed prevented our allies from arriving, which troubled me much, as the circumstances now pressing, I prevailed on the few Frenchmen, who were with me, immediately to bring the wheat into the fort. And it was well I did so; for, two days later, it would have been pillaged. We had to fire upon the enemy to secure it, and as it was they stole a considerable portion of it. But the principal object was, to pull down, as quick as possible, the church, the storehouse, and some other houses which were near my fort, and so close, that the Indians, at any time by