

four of them into the redoubt, I had just constructed. I placed some of them at the two curtains, which were most exposed, and armed them with spears. My two cannon were all ready with slugs of iron prepared to load them, which had been made by the blacksmith. Our Rev. Father held himself ready to give a general absolution in case of necessity, and to assist the wounded, if there should be any. He communicated also the Sacred Host.

Every arrangement being made, and while we were waiting with impatience, I was informed that there were many people in sight. I immediately ascended a bastion, and casting my eyes toward the woods, I saw the army of the nations of the south issuing from it. They were the Illinois, the Missouri, the Osages and other nations yet more remote. There were also with them, the Ottawa Chief, Saguina, and also the Potawatomies, the Sacs, and some Menomenies. Detroit never saw such a collection of people. It is surprising how much all these nations are irritated against the Mascoutins and the Ottagamies. This army marched in good order, with as many flags, as there were different nations, and it proceeded directly to the Fort of the Hurons. These Indians said to the head chief of the army, "You must not encamp. Affairs are too pressing. We must enter immediately into our Father's Fort, and fight for him. As he has always had pity on us, and as he has loved us, we ought to die for him. And don't you see that smoke also. They are these women of your village, Saguina, who are burning there, and your wife is among them." Not another word was necessary. There arose a great cry, and, at the same time, they all began to run, having the Hurons and the Ottawas at their head. The Ottagamies and the Mascoutins raised also their war cry, and about forty of them issued from their fort, all naked, and well armed, running to meet our Indians, and to brave them in order to make them believe they were not afraid. They were obliged, however, to retreat immediately, and to return to their village. Our Indians requested permission to enter our fort, which I granted, seeing they were much excited. It was my design they should encamp near the woods, that they might not be troublesome to us. All the Indian chiefs assem-