

The conference finished (or rather interrupted) by the discharge of muskets; the Renard replied to them quite sharply, and labored night and day in digging pits in their fort, in order to place their families in those places to shelter them from the firearms. On the fourth day the Renard, finding that his provisions were beginning to fail, again addressed the French, in these terms: "My Father, I do not speak to thee; I speak to those women who are hidden in thy fort, and tell them that, if they are as brave as they say they are, they will send out eighty of the best warriors; I promise them, and thou shalt be the witness, my father, that I will oppose to them only twenty warriors, and that if the eighty conquer these men, I consent to be their slave. But if, on the contrary, the twenty overcome the eighty warriors, the latter shall be our slaves." No response was made to any of these propositions, save by a volley of musket-shots, which, however, killed no one.

When the eighth day arrived, the Renards, utterly enfeebled,—for they had passed six days without any food,—departed from their fort at night, with their families, but were not discovered.

The men in the French fort had been accustomed, at daylight, to fire many musket-volleys at that of the Renards, who, for their part, replied in like manner; but on that day they no longer fired their guns, which aroused in the besieged a curiosity to go to the Renard fort, where they found no one. Immediately the chiefs demanded, from Monsieur de Buisson, Sieur de Vincennes and a number of Frenchmen to head their march in pursuit of the Renards. As the latter were famished, they directed their course to a sort of peninsula, in order to feed upon the herbage; and they could only be reached by a defile which they carefully guarded. At last the Detroit party reached that place, and closed the path to the Renard fort; and there was firing on both sides. The Renard, seeing that he was shut in, again spoke, addressing Sieur de Vincennes, who had already summoned them to surrender: "I will surrender myself; answer me at once, my Father, and tell me if there is quarter for our families. Answer me." Sieur de Vincennes called out to them that he granted their lives and safety. As soon as the Renard laid down his weapons, and while he was going to