

and took steps to favor their escape. Our Savages, who discovered this on the 1st of September, rose in a body and were about to fall On the Sakis, when Monsieur de St. Ange at the head of 100 French Advanced to close all avenues leading to the fort on the Side of the Sakis, and Restored order.

We feigned not to notice This Treachery Until the arrival of Monsieur de Noielle,<sup>1</sup> the Commandant of the Miamis, who came to our Camp the same Day with 10 Frenchmen and 200 Savages. He was the bearer of an order from Monsieur The Governor of Canada forbidding the making of any treaty with the Renards. A General Council was held at which the Sakis were put to shame and it was unanimously decided that The enemy should be destroyed.

But we, as well as the Renards, had Long been Suffering from hunger; our Savages, being Reduced to Eating their dressed hides, became Discouraged; 200 Illinois deserted on the 7th of September. This bad example had No Consequences; the Renards were pressed more and more closely; the troops under Monsieur de St. Ange Built, at a distance of two pistol-shots, A small fort destined to Cut off their Communication with the River and everything seemed to presage A complete Victory in our favor.

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<sup>1</sup> Nicolas Joseph des Noyellès, Sieur de Fleurimont, was one of the best known officers in the Canadian service. Born in France (1694), he was ensign in the colonial troops at the early age of sixteen, a lieutenant in 1721, and captain in 1732. During the last war with the English, Des Noyelles was lieutenant-colonel in command at Trois Rivières. His earliest known service in the West was among the Miami; his unsuccessful expedition against the Foxes in 1734 is detailed in the present volume. This did not prevent his appointment to command at Detroit in 1736, where he served about two years. In 1743, Des Noyelles was appointed to succeed La Vérendrye in pursuing Northwest explorations, and for four years, with but little success, he pushed toward the Rocky Mountains. In 1747, he was made commandant at Mackinac, where, for two years, his son had been second in command. Des Noyelles died before 1767, when his eldest son was living in France, and the younger at Quebec. See *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, v, p. 121, for brief biographical note.—Ed.