

and proceeded to the place where the renards were. On the way I took with me The quikapoux and maskoutins, making about 300 men in all. Monsieur de St. Ange was already there with 100 Frenchmen and 400 savages, including Kaôquias, missouris, and Peôrias, and The 200 of our savages who had already fought with them. The Ouyatanons and péanguichias also arrived on the same day as I did, so that in a short time we numbered About 1400 men. I was about to forget one particular circumstance, Monsieur, While Papissa was among the ouyatanons, the renards also sent two men there with a Collar and calumets to ask their aid against the Poutouatamis, maskoutins, and quikapoux, against whom they had just fought, and who were watching them; at the same time they asked them to leave the road open to enable them to go in peace with their families to the jroquois. The ouyatanons replied that they would assist them; that they would remain where they were and fortify themselves and that they would soon see them.

The renards' fort was in a small Grove of trees, on the bank of a little river running through a vast prairie, more than four leagues in circumference, without a tree, except Two groves about 60 arpents from one another. Monsieur de St Ange had camped with His savages on the left bank of the river and had built redoubts to prevent their obtaining Water, but they had excavated underground passages leading to the River. I camped, with my savages and the Frenchmen who had joined me, on the right of their fort, where I erected two others, with a Cavalier in each to beat them back into their own And prevent them from descending into the ditches they had outside. I had a trench opened to approach them more closely, without risk to anybody and had an attempt made to set fire to their fort. This trench made them uneasy, and caused them to move about more than usual. As soon as they saw that the earth was being excavated, a shower of gun-shots fell in good fashion.

The ouyatanons who apparently were unwilling to completely break Their promise to them, asked me to allow them to call a man who was their ally; saying that thereby they might get some illinois women whom they held in captivity. I allowed