

were obliged to make their way back without having caught sight of The enemy save in one instance. A party of twenty-three savages, nearly all of our mission, and seven frenchmen had somehow become separated from The main body when they found themselves suddenly surrounded by a war party of two hundred renards. Our men would have been destroyed, had it not been for The resolution of the Iroquois Captain. "We are all dead men," he said, "if we surrender. There is no help for it; we have to sell our lives as dearly as we can. Let us show these renards that we are Iroquois and frenchmen." Whereupon he led his Warriors to the attack. The enemy could not withstand the first onslaught, but retreated precipitately to their fort. Thirty renards were laid low and ten taken prisoners; our party lost but two frenchmen and one savage.

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[Letter of Beauharnois to the French Minister, dated Oct. 9, 1735. MS. in archives of Ministère des Colonies, Paris; press-mark, "Canada, Corresp. gén., vol. 63, c. 11, fol. 226."]

MONSEIGNEUR—I have received the letter that you did me the honor of writing to me on the 19th of April last. I had the honor of informing you by my despatch of the 17th of June last (which I sent viâ l'Isle Royale), of what had happened during the Sieur de Noyelle's Campaign, and of the conduct of the hurons and Poutouatamis of Detroit. I Append hereto a detailed journal sent me by that Officer in which you will see, Monseigneur, that the slight success obtained by this expedition (which was entirely due to the manœuvres of the Savages) is confined to the promise given by the Sakis to the Sieur de Noyelle to separate from the Renards and to return to la Baye, in accordance with the word that I sent them to forget the unfortunate affair that had occurred there. This, Monseigneur, was the most suitable step that the Sieur de Noyelle could take in the situation in which his party found itself when it reached the Renards. Had this affair been carried out as it had been planned, there is no doubt that they would have suc-