

would not play with Us." He represented to me that it was very late, that the women and Children had not had time to camp, and that it was too cold. On the following day the other Sakis Chiefs sent me word that they could not come out, because the Renards had said to them: "Dogs that ye are, if you abandon us, we will eat your women and Children as soon as you have gone out. We will then fight against you and afterward against the French."

The Sakis sent me a Young saulteur with two of his Sisters, and an Illinois woman whom they had captured last autumn; and I sent them in exchange a Young Saki whom I had with me.

For four Days, Monsieur, our Party had had nothing to eat but 12 Dogs and a Horse that was killed at night near the Renards' fort. Several Soldiers were obliged to eat their mocassins. They All asked me to lead them to the assault. When I saw that we were suffering from hunger and had no hope of obtaining provisions, I proposed to the Iroquois to send some of their People to hunt for our subsistence and enable us to attack the Enemy again. They replied blusteringly (as you will see) that we must Fast and work four or five Days more. They afterward asked me to let them go away. I can positively assure you, Monsieur, that they needed food as much as We did, And as we could not hold out any longer, I sent a collar to the Sakis to convince them that their Father had instructed me to tell them that he would grant them their lives on condition that they would abandon the Renards, As they had previously promised Him, and return to la Baye. They promised me that they would do so.

In this encounter we lost two French and one Huron; four or five savages were wounded. The Enemy had 30 men Killed, wounded, and taken prisoners. I proceeded, Monsieur, to Monsieur Dartaguiette's post to march against the Chicachas according to your orders. Nearly All our Savages left me and went on the war-path in one direction or another. Most of them told me that they wished to return home to provide for the subsistence of their families.