

Monsieur Des noyelles left Montreal in the month of August 1734, with 80 French and about 130 of our settled savages to pursue the Sakis and Renards. He took with him on his way, both at Detroit and at the Ouiatanons, about 100 hurons and Poutouatamis. After 7 months' journey both by water and by land, he arrived on the bank of the River Mongona [Des Moines] 60 Leagues from the spot where that River falls into the Mississippi,<sup>1</sup> to which place they had been guided by 40 Kikapoux. The savages and French set to work to cross The River to fall on what they took for 4 Cabins of Renards whose Camping places they had traced. But when 27 savages and 3 French had crossed that River before the main body of The little army had assembled, and as they were about to rush, hatchet in hand, on those 4 cabins, they found themselves surrounded by nearly 250 Sakis and Renards who formed 55 Cabins, and against whom these 30 men fought so well that they compelled them to fall back and to retire into a fort built by the women And Children while the Warriors were fighting; so that when the main body of our small army made its appearance The enemy had retreated, and the Sakis asked Monsieur Desnoyelles for a suspension of hostilities in order to hold a parley. That officer who had been ordered to use naught but conciliatory means to detach the Sakis from the Renards, had recourse to the same and without letting them know the sorry Plight of his army, which consisted only of 240 men—for The Hurons had left at Ouiatanons, and moreover they had no provisions to allow of their sustaining a siege. He nevertheless spoke to the Sakis as a superior, And told them that their father had sent him solely to tell them that he would forgive them for the affair at la Baye on condition that they separated from the Renards and returned to kindle at that spot the fire that they had abandoned. These savages received the Sieur Desnoyelles's message with much satisfaction, and replied to him that, on account of the men who had been wounded in the

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<sup>1</sup>Probably in the vicinity of the present city of Des Moines, Iowa.—Ed.