

Puans and Saulteux breaking them up. After this act, they fired on the Sioux, broke the thigh of one who fired a gun-shot through the body of a Saulteux and killed him. The Saulteux cut him to pieces. The Sioux fled through the woods. The Saulteux came to the fort and asked the sieur de Saint Pierre for the thirteen Sioux who were there. He replied that he did not give up people who took refuge with him. He kept them for two days, and then had them escape at night. The Puans came to tell the sieur de Saint Pierre that they could no longer remain near their enemies; that the Saulteux had urged them to commit this evil deed, and at the same time they all left with the Saulteux.

After the departure of the Puans the sieur de Saint Pierre held a council with the sieur de Linctot, his second in command, Reverend Father Guignas,¹ and the French in the post to decide what they should do. They told him that there was nothing else to be done but to abandon the post, burn the fort, and escape, because they ran the risk of being any day massacred by the Sioux. He said that his advice was to stay; and that he could not think that after the favor they had done the nation in preventing those who were in the affray with the Puans and Saulteux from being killed, they would be evil-minded enough to do them any harm; and moreover that it was their interest to remain. They replied that they would rather sacrifice their

¹The fate of Father Guignas had for several years been a cause for anxiety among his Jesuit brethren. Father Nau wrote in 1734: "The war is still carried on against what remains of the Renard nation, and against the other tribes which have taken them under their protection. Father Guignas was not taken, as it was feared, but he has had much to suffer, for nothing can be sent him safely. For two consecutive years the provisions sent him have fallen into the enemy's hands." Aulneau in 1735 wrote: "We are much afraid that father Guignas has been taken and burned by a tribe of savages called the *rénards*; but in this unfortunate country we should set little value on our lives which are so often in peril." And again some weeks later: "We received, a few days ago, news of father Guignas; since 1732 he had not been heard from. He is in a helpless state. The hunger he has had to endure, the imminent danger to which he has