

A fol Avoine, an Old man, and a woman who Were then the only members of that tribe amongst the Puants, were the first to present themselves to me and they told me and their people, that they begged me to take revenge while it was in my power on the Puants, whom they considered their chief Enemies, after the cowardly deed they had committed by Handing over their brothers to the fury of the Renards, and they added that, without my assistance, they could not have Hoped for four hours of life, from the thorough knowledge they had of the evil hearts of the Puants. When our people, the folles avoines, Heard these words, they were On the point of forgetting what they had promised me, to keep silent on the Subject as I had requested them, and of asking me almost positively to Promise to allow them to take their revenge in the fort itself. I diverted their attention at the moment in order to induce them to think that the only thing to be done then was to try and win a victory over the Renards, Their cruelest Enemies, and I told them that I would afterwards think of the steps I would take with regard to the Puants. When day came the puants, who were somewhat reassured by what I had said to them, thought of nothing else but of fighting together with us Without any apprehension, for the Renards never ceased firing at us continually without interruption. On the third day, the Renards asked for speech with me and for a cessation of hostilities for a time, that they might represent to me what they had already said to me concerning my taking the part of the Puants, adding that If I would visit their fort it would afford them a real pleasure; that their young men would receive me with open arms, in the Hope that I would inspire all with good sense. But, although they seemed sincere, judging by the manner in which they gave me to understand this, I nevertheless placed no reliance on what they said and considered that they wanted to set a trap for me in order to take me easily. But, as I did not wish them to see at Once that I fathomed their designs, I Contented myself with telling them that I could not consent to their proposal Without alarming my Children who would perhaps be afraid of losing their father through such an act of Folly; that, so far as I was