

them to Monsieur de L'abbady, Commissioner at la Rochelle so that he may put them in prison pending your orders. I trust that this blow, added to the complete pillage suffered by the English on this occasion, will discourage them from trading on our lands.

It is so rare, Monseigneur, that a war with savages can bring about a very stable peace that I should not be surprised if, at the instigation of the English, the Miamis were to ask their Allies for help. Nevertheless, I have had no news of it, and I hope that my action in the Belle Rivière country will awe all the Nations.

As the Sieur de Langlade is not in the service and has married a Savage woman, I will content myself with asking you,

lated to Trent that on the morning of June 21, while most of the Miami were absent upon their summer hunt, a party of 240 French and Indians appeared, captured the women at work in the cornfields, and nearly surprised the traders, of whom eight were in the outbuildings around the fort. Three traders were besieged in a house, and acted in so cowardly a manner, surrendering without showing fight, that they revealed the weak condition of the fort. In the afternoon a truce was called, and the French leader proposed to retire if the traders were given up to them. It was finally agreed to yield them up on promise that they should not be harmed—but see on this point Jared Sparks, *Franklin's Works*, iii, p. 230. The besiegers did not keep faith, for although they surrendered the captive women, they killed one wounded trader, and, taking out his heart, ate it. They also killed chief La Demoiselle, and feasted on his remains. The Miami also broke their word by concealing the two traders before mentioned. After a few days Trent and a considerable company went to see what had become of the fort, and found it deserted. They brought back a few furs that had escaped the plunder of the savages, the loss having aggregated £3,000 sterling. A few of the Miami, including the widow and son of La Demoiselle, escaped to the Scioto town, but a large majority returned to the French. The Pennsylvania authorities sent the Miami the following year a present valued at £200 to "cover the dead." For additional details see *Penn. Colon. Recs.*, v. pp. 599, 600; Henry Howe, *History of Ohio* (Columbus, 1889-91), Shelby County; and George Bancroft, *History of the United States* (Boston, 1857), iv, pp. 94, 95. In Draper MSS. 1J1-7 there are transcripts from two contemporaneous newspapers, with additional details.—Ed.