

asks me to give him assistance—you are ordered by these presents to depart and try to arouse the nations. Monsieur Langlade from the Grand River as far as St. Joseph, where are the Court Oreilles and the Ganteaux [Sauteur], causing them to assemble without loss of time at St. Joseph.⁹⁹

Monsieur Gautier will go direct to St. Joseph there addressing himself to Mons. Louison Chevalier¹ in order to require him to assist Monsieur Ainse in assembling the Poutouatamies, while Gautier does his best to obtain Intelligence of the situation of Monsieur Hamilton, making his report thereof to Monsieur Langlade. They will do their best to join him by the shortest route, or descend the Illinois River if it is possible and better calculated to second the operations of Monsieur Hamilton.

As one cannot arrange for operations in case Monsieur Ham-

Capt. Leonard Helm was established in charge of this post. When the news reached Detroit, Lieut.-Gov. Henry Hamilton determined to go in person to retrieve this disaster, and retake Vincennes; see his correspondence in *Ill. Hist. Colls.*, i, pp. 330-409.—Ed.

⁹⁹ The Chippewa (Sauteur), and some of the Ottawa from the neighborhood of Mackinac, had long wintered on Grand River, Michigan. Langlade had a trading establishment among them as early as 1755; see *ante*, p. 130. The term "Court Oreilles" (short-ears) meant simply natural ears that had not been extended by artificial means. A band of Wisconsin Chippewa is so named at present, whence Lac Court Oreilles. The band here mentioned were Ottawa, as is proven by De Peyster's letter in *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xi, p. 121.—Ed.

¹ For the Chevalier family see *ante*, p. 136, note 80. Louis, commonly known as Louison, was born in 1720 and sometime before the close of the French regime settled at St. Josephs. Here he was engaged in trade and agriculture, and had a large establishment, being the principal personage of the settlement. In 1763 he saved the lives of some of the English garrison, and no fort being re-established at this place he became a quasi-commandant, executing the orders of the British officers at Detroit and Mackinac. He was trusted by De Peyster, but suspected of correspondence with Americans by the latter's successor Sinclair, who had him arrested and sent to Montreal. There he was retained until 1782, after which nothing more is known concerning him. See *post*.—Ed.