

scarcely returned to Outina, when a boat sent by Laudonniere came for d'Erlach, to whom the paraousti made some very fine presents. He sent presents also to the commandant of the French, among which were pieces of gold and silver. He also pledged his word to d'Erlach, that if the French needed his subjects they should always find six hundred ready to serve them against all the world.<sup>1</sup>

De Laudonniere had been obliged to recall d'Erlach, from the fact that he had been warned of a secret conspiracy against him. The volunteers, several of whom were, as I have said, gentlemen, took it ill that the commandant should employ them in the same labors as the lowest mechanics ; and all complained that he had not brought to Florida a single minister, so that there was no public exercise of religion. But the cause of discontent in the majority was, that the provisions were on the eve of failing entirely. Moreover, an adventurer had persuaded most of them that he had a secret to find gold-mines, which the commandant would not permit him to test.<sup>2</sup>

Sedition at  
Caroline.

Laudonniere's conduct, wise as it was, had been regarded as pure tyranny. It was loudly declared that the intention of the king and the admiral was, that nothing should be neglected to discover all the riches contained in the country ; and it was incessantly repeated, that neither Mr. de Coligni nor his majesty intended to send so many men of good family to America, to be treated as slaves and die of hunger. This language soon passed from private conversations to public meetings, and from murmurs they came to conspire against the commandant's life, who had no little to do to guard against the snares laid for him at different times.<sup>3</sup>

He nevertheless deemed that the worst course for him to adopt in so critical a juncture, would be to relax.

<sup>1</sup> Laudonniere in Basanier, *Histoire Notable*, p. 109. in Laudonniere of any complaint of want of ministers.

<sup>2</sup> Ib., p. 110. There is no mention

<sup>3</sup> Ib., pp. 110-13.