

His first care then, and it should have been his first on arriving in Florida, was to fill his storehouse, convinced by bitter experience that the surest means to prevent mutinies among new colonists is to keep them ever in plenty, and to employ them in profitable exercise. At the same time he added new works to his fort, making it impregnable to any attack from the Indians, the only enemies against whom he supposed it necessary to take precautions. After this he again sent the *Sieur d'Ottigny*, his lieutenant, to explore the country.

1565.

His precautions and fortifying.

This officer penetrated to the banks of a great lake, of which he could not see the further end, even from the tops of the highest trees, and which *Lescarbot* imagined to have communicated with the Pacific,—a pardonable error at the time, when only the coasts of North America were known.<sup>1</sup> The lake which *d'Ottigny* discovered is apparently the same which *Hernan de Soto* perceived as he approached the mountains of *Apalache*, and which is not even now well known, any more than another smaller one, found, it is said, amid these very mountains, pretty far to the northeast of the former, and where they pretend the sand is mingled with some grains of silver, if, indeed, both are not fabulous. *D'Ottigny*, returning to *Caroline*, made several diversions through a most beautiful country; then repaired to *Outina*, to whom his arrival gave great pleasure, and with whom he could not avoid leaving some of his party.

New discoveries.

Two months after, *Groutaut*, one of these Frenchmen, arrived at the fort, and made *de Laudonniere* a very specious proposition from a *paraousti*, one of *Outina's* neighbors. This was to make the French masters of the mountains of *Apalache*, if they would help him to drive out one of his enemies, who was in possession. The com-

War breaks out among the Indians again.

<sup>1</sup> *Lescarbot*, *Histoire de la Nouvelle France* (ed. 1618), p. 90. *Le Moyne de Morgues* (p. 19) and *Laudonniere* (p. 137) say that he merely went in sight of the lake, and that the Indians reported that they could not see across it. It is probably Lake George.