

1565. he would do nothing, so that Mr. de Laudonniere, who deemed this precaution absolutely necessary, was obliged to send his carpenter secretly to scuttle and sink them.¹

Laudon-
niere ar-
rives in
France.

What then became of young Ribaut is not stated.² As for Mr. de Laudonniere, after buffeting with head winds, and suffering greatly from hunger, he was driven ashore in the British Channel, and compelled to land at Bristol.³ He was long sick in England, and on his recovery passed over to France, where, the Spaniards pretend, he was ill-received by the king.⁴ Even this would not prove what the Spaniards endeavor to show, that the king was in league with his brother-in-law, to exterminate the Hugue-nots in Florida: but Admiral Coligni was more embroiled than ever with the court, and all attached to him were regarded unfavorably.

Several
French
hung by the
Spaniards.

Notwithstanding Laudonniere's exertions, all the French would not or could not follow him. Some fled to the Indians, a few surrendered to the Spaniards, who placed them with the prisoners made at the capture of Caroline.⁵ The French historians all agree⁶ in stating that all these were hung to a tree, on which was a label inscribed: "These are not treated thus as Frenchmen, but as heretics

¹ Le Moyne de Morgues, p. 27. Laudonniere says nothing of Ribault's opposing the destruction of the useless vessels. He says that from that bought of Hawkins he took the cannon—giving nine pieces to James Ribault, and keeping five—and that he sank another. Le Moyne says, two others.

² Laudonniere and Ribault sailed in company, September 25th, each with half the survivors; but Ribault, whose vessel was the Pearl, left him next day. Laudonniere, p. 202. Challeux apparently sailed with Ribault; and after engaging a Spanish ship, reached Rochelle. Histoire Memorable, pp. 289-291.

³ He first reached Sovaneze (Swansea), in Wales (ib., 204); and being sick, sent his vessel to France.

⁴ Barcia, Ensayo Cronologico, p. 81.

⁵ Six surrendered, were killed, and dragged to the river-side, in sight of Ribault's vessel. Histoire Memorable, p. 277.

⁶ This is not stated by Laudonniere, nor by Challeux, nor by Chauveton in his Latin version of Challeux, nor in the letter addressed to King Charles. The story was apparently put forward for the first time in the account of de Gourgues' expedition. It can hardly be said, therefore, that the French all agree.