

up with loud cries of joy, all protested that they were ready to go wherever he chose to lead them. De Gourgues would fain have profited by this ardor, and set sail at once ; but he deemed it wiser to wait for the full moon, to pass the Bahama Channel. He passed it at last, and soon descried the land of Florida. So far were the Spaniards from imagining that there was any idea in France of reconquering the country, that, on perceiving the three ships, they took them for Spanish vessels, and as such saluted them with two cannon, when they saw them pass May River.¹ The Chevalier de Gourgues answered them, gun for gun ; then pushed on, and standing somewhat out at sea, on the next night entered the Seine River,² fifteen leagues distant from May River.

He there found a number of Indians, who, taking him for a Spaniard, prepared to oppose his landing ; but he sent them his trumpeter, who had served under Mr. de Laudonniere in Florida, and was well acquainted with the language of the country. This man recognized Saturiova, who happened to be with the paraousti of the place, and addressing him, told him that the French came to renew the alliance which they had had with him the preceding years ; and the manner in which his compliment was received gave him room to judge that these tribes were not pleased with the Spaniards.

The next day, Saturiova, followed by a great number of Indians, approached the place where the French had landed, and asked that their general should meet him. Mr. de Gourgues went with his interpreter, who had scarcely begun to speak, when the paraousti, interrupting

1568.
He reaches Florida.

In what dis-
position he
finds the
Indians.

¹ De Gourgues MS. *La Reprinse de la Floride*, p. 321 ; Basanier, p. 208.

² A manuscript account of this expedition, preserved in the Royal Library, calls the river Tacatacourou, and says that the king of the people

of that district bore the same name. —*Charlevoix*. This manuscript is the *Reprinse de la Floride* printed in Ternaux, and previously in the *Revue Retrospective*. Basanier (p. 208) says the same. The name occurs in *Barcia*, pp. 121, 141.