

Blaye. His stay at Bordeaux did not exceed that at ^{1568.} Rochelle. He repaired first to Mr. de Montluc, under whom he had served in Tuscany, and who praised him highly. By this general's advice he went to the court; but he was ill received there. He was even advised privately to withdraw, unless he wished to be sacrificed to the resentment of the Catholic king, who loudly demanded his head, for which he offered a reward, and whom the French king then humored greatly, as he expected aid from him against the rebels.

In fact, the queen-mother and the faction of the princes of Lorraine declared against him; and it was proposed to bring him to trial for undertaking the expedition without orders. He was for a long time concealed at Rouen by President de Marigny; and as he was far from having brought back enough from Florida to discharge the debts which he had contracted to enable him to expel the Spaniards, he would have had great difficulty in finding means of subsistence, but for the aid given him by that magistrate and some of his old friends. Queen Elizabeth, then reigning in England, soon after made him very advantageous offers, if he would enter her service; but his royal master, who had really been charmed with his exploit, having publicly restored him to favor, de Gourgues thanked the English queen.

He is
obliged to
disappear.

At last Don Antonio offered him the command of the ^{His death.} fleet which he was fitting out to support his right to the crown of Portugal, which Philip II. had seized. He joyfully embraced so fine an opportunity of again making war on the Spaniards; but having set out to meet the Portuguese prince, he fell sick at Tours and died there,¹

¹ Basanier, *Histoire Notable*, p. 222, gives the date as 1582—that is, four years before the appearance of his work, and fourteen after the Florida voyage, a much longer period than the text would lead one to in-

fer. Chauveton's edition of Benzoni, though published in 1579, and consequently a year after de Gourgues' death, does not allude to his expedition at all—a somewhat remarkable omission.