

1568. universally regretted—leaving a reputation as one of the bravest and ablest captains of his time, as capable of commanding a fleet as an army. Worthy, undoubtedly, of the greatest eulogiums, had he not listened to resentment for his private wrongs in the most brilliant action of his life; had he had no other motive than zeal for the honor of the French name.¹

¹ Basanier, *Histoire Notable*, pp. 222, 223. Barcia, in the *Ensayo Cronologico*, simply embodies the French account, and gives no contemporary Spanish matter. Indeed, there seems to be none; the most pertinacious research of Buckingham Smith in the Spanish archives relating to Florida, at the time, failed to discover the slightest allusion to any such capture of San Mateo and

two adjacent forts. Parkman admits that there is a savor of romance in the French account. New light may be hereafter thrown on the matter, and reduce de Gourgues' expedition to a mere slaving and piratical cruise, such as was common at the day and not deemed disgraceful. This may hereafter lead to some doubts as to the exploit of de Gourgues.