

1678. Recollect, who subsequently accompanied them in most of their journeys. La Sale's first care on arriving at Catarocouy, was to begin his labors on the fort, which was only of palisades; he at the same time built a bark, and these operations were carried through with a celerity which gave a high idea of the activity of the new governor.¹

He then sailed in his bark as far as Niagara, where he traced a new fort: this he confided to the Chevalier de Tonti, to whom he left thirty men, gave orders for building a second bark at the head of Lake Erie, above Niagara Falls, traversed on foot all the Seneca canton, made during the rest of the winter a number of other excursions, which had no other object than the fur-trade, returned by land to Catarocouy, and sent his bark back again to Niagara, loaded with provisions and merchandise.² It then made several successful trips, but the pilot having one day run too close in shore, it was wrecked.³

1679. This disaster did not disconcert Mr. de la Sale: he soon repaired this loss, and spent all the spring and summer of the year 1679 in filling his storehouse at Niagara, and visiting the various savage tribes with whom he wished to trade, or from whom he hoped to derive information for his discoveries. The Chevalier de Tonti did the same on his side. At last, about the middle of August, the bark which had been built at the entrance of Lake Erie⁴ being

¹ The fort was already built, and probably the bark. For a plan of the fort as built by la Salle, see Faillon, *Histoire de la Colonie*, iii., p. 467.

² Tonty, *Memoir*, *Louisiana Hist. Col.*, i., p. 53. They left Fort Frontenac November 18: Le Clercq, *Etablissement*, ii., p. 141; Hennepin, *Description de la Louisiane*, p. 20; *Nouvelle Découverte*, p. 72; *Discovery of the Mississippi*, p. 89.

³ Hennepin, *Nouvelle Découverte*, p. 93; *Description de la Louisiane*, p. 41; Le Clercq, ii., p. 144; Tonty,

Memoir in Margry, p. 6; *Discovery of the Mississippi*, p. 90.

⁴ This vessel, called the Griffin in honor of Count de Frontenac, whose arms had griffins as supporters (De la Potherie, *Hist. de l'Amérique*, ii., p. 136), was built two leagues above Niagara Falls, at the mouth of a little river: Hennepin, *Nouvelle Découverte*, pp. 94, 99; Tonty, in Margry, p. 6; Bancroft, *Hist. U. S.*, iii., p. 163, originally supposed this to be Tonawanda Creek; and Spark, *Life of la Salle*, *Lib. Am. Biog.*, vol. xi., p. 21, Chippewa Creek in Canada.