

1679. most. He did not reflect sufficiently that if the feet and arms cannot act but by direction of the head, it can execute nothing without their ministry.

They seek
to poison
him.

Towards the close of this year he lost another part of his men, including those in whom he put the greatest confidence. These traitors had formed a plot to poison him,¹ and all whom they knew to be most sincerely attached to him. They were discovered, and had no alternative but flight, which they adopted. La Sale took in their stead a number of young Illinois, whom he found well disposed, and began to prepare in earnest to begin his explorations.² He first detached a man named Dacan with Father Hennepin to ascend the Micissipi above the Illinois River, and if possible to its source.³

He sends
the Sieur
Dacan and
F.Hennepin
up the
Micissipi.
1680.

These two travellers left Fort Crevecoeur February 28th, and, having entered the Micissipi, ascended it to about the 46° N. There they were arrested by a pretty high waterfall extending across the whole width of the river, and to which Father Hennepin gave the name of Falls of Saint Anthony of Padua. They then fell, by what accident I know not,⁴ into the hands of the Sioux, who retained them as prisoners for a considerable time, but did not maltreat them. They were at last delivered by some

¹ Tonty, Memoire, Margry, p. 8; Louisiana Hist. Col., i., p. 54.

² This is all strangely confused. See note, p. 204. He left Fort Crevecoeur March 2, 1680, with four Frenchmen and one Indian for Catarocouy (Le Clercq, Etablissement de la Foi, ii., p. 169), having previously dispatched Hennepin, who set out February 29, 1680: *Ib.* La Salle did not get back to the Illinois till December 1: *Ib.*, p. 204.

³ Hennepin was accompanied by Michael Ako, a native of Poitou (Relation de la Louisiane, p. 187; Nouvelle Découverte, p. 239), and Anthony Auguelle, nicknamed le Picard du Gay, a native of Amiens,

nephew of du Cauroi, Procurator-General of the Premonstratensians: Nouvelle Découverte, p. 365. As all engaged in la Salle's discoveries were ennobled, Ako assumed the *de*, and his name was written d'Ako, or d'Acou: Tonty, in Margry, p. 8. The latter gave rise to Charlevoix's form, Dacan. He married an Illinois wife: Gravier, Relation, 1693, p. 32.

⁴ He was captured by the Sioux, April 11, 1680: Description de la Louisiane, p. 106. As to the spot, see Discovery and Exploration of the Mississippi, p. 110, *n.* He reached St. Anthony's Falls a prisoner: *Ib.*, p. 122.