

1680. had no settlement on the banks of the river which they descended. It is even quite difficult to understand how they could go to its mouth, descend it and ascend it again to the 46th degree, remain prisoners several months among the Sioux, and all that in less than a year. Accordingly, it was never believed in Canada that they did any thing but return to Fort Crevecoeur by the same route they had taken in ascending to the Falls of St. Anthony.<sup>1</sup>

He builds a  
new fort.

Be that as it may, new troubles which befell Mr. de la Sale after the departure of Dacan and Father Hennepin, detained him at his Fort Crevecoeur till the month of November,<sup>2</sup> and then compelled him to return to Catarocouy. On his way he perceived on the Illinois river, which he was ascending, a site which seemed to him very well adapted for the erection of a new fort.<sup>3</sup> He traced the plan of one, called Mr. de Tonti, whom he appointed to build it, and continued his route. Scarcely had Tonti begun his work when he received information that the French whom he had left in Fort Crevecoeur had revolted. He hastened back, but found only seven or eight men, the rest having deserted, with all that they were able to carry.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Charlevoix persists in making Hennepin return to Crevecoeur against his express statement.

<sup>2</sup> He remained only a few days: Ante, p. 204, note. He set out March 2, 1680 (le Clercq, *Etablissement de la Foi*, ii., p. 169), or March 22d: Tonty, in Margry; *Relations*, p. 8; *Louisiana Hist. Col.*, i., p. 45; Hennepin, *Description de la Louisiane*, p. 184. Of his journey we have no details. Tonty and Membré say he had five men, four Frenchmen and one Indian. Membré says he reached the Illinois village on the 11th, and after one day there, continued his route to Fort Frontenac on the ice, as though he went as he had come.

He was back to Crevecoeur by November.

<sup>3</sup> Tonty, *Memoire* in Margry, p. 8; *Louisiana Hist. Col.*, i., p. 55. This is usually supposed to be Buffalo Rock; but Parkman, examining the ground with the best documents in hand, locates it at Starved Rock. The great Illinois village called by Marquette and Allouez, Kaskaskia, was on the opposite side, about midway between it and the Big Vermillion river, the Aramoni of la Salle.

<sup>4</sup> He says they left him only two Recollects and three men: *Memoir*, *Louisiana Hist. Col.*, p. 55. Le Clercq, *Etablissement*, ii., p. 171, details the desertion. La Salle, notified by Ton-