

Duhaut deferred his answer to the next day ; and, after consulting with his band, he told Mr. Cavelier that he consented to give him half the stores that were left. He added that if he and his did not succeed in building a bark, they would return ; and that he would do them a favor to accumulate provisions, at all hazards. A few days after, he changed his mind about returning to St. Louis, and proposed to his comrades to rejoin Mr. Cavelier, and proceed to the Illinois. Hiens and some others were not of this opinion, and demanded their share of the goods.

Duhaut raised objections ; they quarreled ; and, at last, Hiens drew his pistol, and shot Duhaut in the head. He staggered four paces from the spot where he was, and fell dead. At the same time, Ruter, the Breton sailor, whom Joutel had brought from the Cenis, and who had taken sides with Hiens, fired his musket at Liotot, the surgeon. That wretch, although he received three balls in his body, lingered some hours, and was so happy as to receive the sacrament of penance, after which the one who wounded him shot him dead with a pistol. Thus, the two who murdered de la Sale and his nephew, were the first victims of the spirit of madness which they had infused into that ill-starred colony.<sup>1</sup>

Joutel, who witnessed this massacre, at once seized his musket to defend himself, in case they sought his life as well ; but Hiens called out to him not to be alarmed : that he had no object, except avenging the death of his patron ; he added that although he had been in Duhaut's plot, he had not consented to his parricide, and would have prevented it had he been present. The Indians did not know

<sup>1</sup> Joutel, *Journal Historique*, pp. 241-3. Father Anastasius, who is less detailed, says Duhaut was shot through the heart. *Le Clercq, Etablissement de la Foi*, ii., p. 346 ; Hennepin, p. 247. The death of Liotot he describes as terrible : After allowing one of the priests to give him the last rites, one of the assassins fired a cartridge at his head, which set fire to his hair and clothes, and thus he perished. *Ibid.* Pierre Talon represents Duhaut as killed by James, James by Ruter, Ruter by a surgeon, who fled to the Lohos, and was killed in war.