

1687-90. On the 3d of September they entered the river of the Illinois,¹ and on the 14th² reached Fort St. Louis, where the Sieur de Bellefontaine held command, in the absence of the Chevalier de Tonti, who had gone to join the Marquis de Dénouville in the war against the Senecas.³ Every one eagerly asked for news of de la Sale, and they replied that they had left him forty leagues from the Cenis. They did not deem it well to be more explicit, as they wished to proceed to Canada as soon as possible; needed assistance to make that journey, rendered difficult and dangerous, since war had been declared against the Iroquois; and feared that this assistance would be refused, if information were given of de la Sale's death.

They reach Fort St. Louis of the Illinois, and make the French, whom they meet, believe that Mr. de la Sale is full of life.

They are obliged to winter in the fort.

Happily for them, the Sieur de Boisrondet, his agent, was preparing for that voyage; and the meeting was equally agreeable to both. They embarked on the 18th, but they did not go far; bad weather compelled them to return to the fort, from which they had started. This accident disconcerted them all the more, as it deprived them of all hope of passing over to France that year, and sending assistance to such of their people as had remained at the settlement of St. Louis, near St. Bernard's Bay; but they had to be patient.⁴

On the 27th of October, Mr. de Tonti arrived at Fort St. Louis.⁵ Mr. Cavelier deemed it necessary not to be

Akansas, or Alkansas. (Ib.; compare Hennepin, *Voy. au Nord*, v., p. 257.) This agrees with Heckewelder, and identifies his Talligewi, or Allegewi, of the Delawares, with the Arkansas. (Heckewelder, *Account of the Indian Nations*, pp. 29-30.) The name, whether Akansas, Alkansas, Arkansas, Allegewi, or Talle-gewi, is evidently the Algonquin name for the nation, not their own.

¹ Joutel, *Journal Historique*, p. 326. F. Anastasius (*Le Clercq*, ii., p. 366) says the 5th, and makes a long attack on Marquette and Joliet.

² Joutel, p. 329, says precisely Sunday, Sept. 14, 2 P. M.; Anastasius, in *Le Clercq*, ii., 367; Hennepin, *Voy. au Nord*, v., p. 258.

³ Tonty, *Memoir*, in Margry, *Relations, &c.*; *Louisiana H. C.*, i., pp. 69-70.

⁴ Joutel, *Journal Historique*, pp. 331-5.

⁵ Joutel, *Journal Historique*, p. 346; Tonty, *Memoir*, in Margry, and in *L. H. Coll.*, i., p. 70. His memoir, as given in *Voy. au Nord*, v., p. 150, makes him return to his fort at the end of May.