

1684. Chevalier de Saint Laurent,<sup>1</sup> the lieutenant-general, and Mr. Begon, intendant of the French West Indies, who all, by virtue of a special commission from the king, had proceeded to Saint Domingo to aid Mr. de Cussi in regulating the police, giving due form to the administration of justice, and remedying several disorders which were ruining the commerce of that rising colony.

Vessel lost  
through  
Mr. de  
Beaujeu's  
fault.

Mr. de la Sale wrote, entreating the Governor to come and visit him, as he had many things to communicate for the king's service, and he could not possibly leave his vessels to wait upon the Governor. Not only Mr. de Cussi, but the Chevalier de Saint Laurent and Mr. Begon also, were complaisant enough to proceed to Petit Goave, where they found Mr. de la Sale very sick. Disappointment contributed not a little to his illness, for he had some days before learned that his ketch had been captured off the shores of St. Domingo by two Spanish periaguas, an accident that might have been avoided had they put in at Port de Paix, and which tended to widen the breach between him and de Beaujeu.<sup>2</sup>

It was not indeed easy to see what induced that commander to persist, as he did, in a matter that should apparently have been indifferent to him; but these gentlemen appeared bent on nothing scarcely but thwarting each other. A royal officer always finds it galling to be obliged to receive orders, on his own deck, from a private individual, without rank; but if de Beaujeu was not disposed to do what was expected of him in the matter, why did he accept the command on that condition?<sup>3</sup> On his side, de

<sup>1</sup> Marquis. Joutel, p. 24.

<sup>2</sup> Joutel, *Journal Historique*, p. 27; Le Clercq, *Etablissement de la Foi*, ii., p. 280; Cavelier, *Journal du Voyage*, p. 6. *Memoire*, 1717-20, Ms, Hennepin, *Voyage*, p. 206.

<sup>3</sup> The *Lettre de Cachet à Mr. de La Salle, Versailles*, April 12, 1684, was as follows: "Having chosen the *Sieur de Beaujeu* to command my

ship, the *Joly*, on which you will embark, I order him to command in all that regards the working of the ship during the voyage, and to execute what you shall direct as to the course to be pursued, and moreover to give you, when you have landed, every service you demand of him except what may be against the safety of the said ship."