

la Sale did not sufficiently appreciate what this condition must have cost a commandant, and failed to modify it by his manner; he showed no confidence in de Beaujeu, and met all the proposals of that officer by saying: "It is not the king's intention." This was not the means to interest in his enterprise a man whose co-operation was essential to its success; accordingly, when Mr. Cavelier, seeing his brother dangerously ill, requested de Beaujeu to have the kindness to take care of his affairs, he received no reply but that he knew nothing about them, and that they seemed to him in so wretched a state that it would do him no honor to interfere.¹

De la Sale recovered at last, and as, after some conversations with the Governor of St. Domingo and the two commissaries, who cordially agreed to all that was required of them,² nothing detained him at Petit Goave, he left it on the 25th of November,³ more at variance than ever with Mr. de Beaujeu. On the 12th of December the squadron doubled Cape San Antonio, the western point of the island of Cuba, and entered the Gulf of Mexico; but, on the 14th, a violent head-wind forced them to put back to that cape, where they anchored till the 18th.⁴ On the 28th they discovered the Florida shore, and, from what had been positively stated to de la Sale, namely, that the currents in the Gulf of Mexico set eastward, he had no doubt that the mouth of the Micissipi was still far to the westward, an error which led to all his misfortunes.⁵

He accordingly turned westward, but advanced slowly, as from time to time he approached the shore, and coasted

1684.

They arrive
in sight of
Florida.

¹ There was much sickness. Three or four died on the Joly, one on the Belle; there were sixty sick, of whom seven or eight died at St. Domingo. Five or six deserted there.

² Joutel, *Journal Historique*, p. 28; Le Clercq, *Etablissement de la Foi*, p. 281.

³ Cavelier, *Relation du Voyage*,

p. 7; Hennepin, *Voyage*, p. 207.

⁴ Joutel, *Journal Historique*, pp. 35-7; Le Clercq, ii., p. 282.

⁵ Joutel, *Journal Historique*, pp. 39-40. Compare Le Clercq, *Etablissement*, ii., p. 283, who says they entered the gulf January 1st, and saw land in fifteen days, and Cavelier, *Voyage*, p. 8, who says they saw land January 6, 1685.