

left several canoes on the shore, and these were seized: a petty reprisal, soon to cost far more than they were worth. The Indians returning to recover their canoes, came by night on those who had seized them, and finding them asleep, killed two volunteers, named Orry and Desloges, whom Mr. de la Sale greatly regretted, wounded Moranget and one other, but failed to recover the canoes.¹

1685.

So many mishaps coming in close succession disheartened most of those who had joined the expedition, and among others Mr. de Dainnaville and the engineer Sieur Minet, who resolved to return to France, induced in no small degree by the language of La Sale's enemies, who were constantly decrying his conduct, and treating his project as a rash and foolhardy enterprise.²

As for La Sale he never displayed greater resolution and firmness: he built a store-house, and threw a good intrenchment around it; then, having taken it into his head that the river which he had entered might be one of the branches of the Micissipi, he prepared to ascend it.

At the same time learning that Mr. de Beaujeu was ready to sail back to France, de la Sale asked him to deliver to him the cannon and balls, on board his vessel, which had been shipped for his use. Beaujeu replied that all this was in the bottom of his hold, and that he would have to change all the stowage of his ship to get them out; that this operation would consume more time than was left him to avoid the usual bad weather of the season on which they were entering, and that he believed de la Sale too reasonable a man to expose him to perish. Yet he well knew that de la Sale had on shore only eight

Mr. de Beaujeu returns to France. His misconduct towards de la Sale.

¹ The party led by du Hamel, Beaujeu's lieutenant, went to the Indian hut and carried off some furs, &c., and then took the canoes, which they could not manage for want of paddles. Tired out, they landed the night and their sentinel falling asleep they were surprised, March 5. Oris and Desloges were killed, Gayen and Moranget wounded, Joutel, Journ. Historique, pp. 82-90; Le Clercq, Etablissement de la Foi, ii., p. 288.

² D'amanville wrote a journal, DeLisle à Cassini, Voyages au Nord., iv., p. 565.