

1685.

small field-pieces, and not a single cannon-ball, and moreover men could not see how he had so inconveniently stowed away articles intended for de la Sale's settlement.¹

He gave a still more marked proof of his ill-will. The treachery of the captain of the store-ship was established; de Beaujeu to shield him from any prosecution by de la Sale, received him on his ship with all the crew of that craft, and this against his express pledge to de la Sale to embark no one without his consent. La Sale's only resource was to write to the Minister to lay his complaints before him, a step which alleviated in no respect the sad position in which he was placed.²

The Joli having set sail about the middle of March,³ the colonists at once went to work on a fort. As soon as some progress was made, la Sale appointed Joutel to complete it, conferred the command on him, and left him about one hundred and twenty persons. He himself with the rest amounting at most to fifty men, among whom were Mr. Cavelier, his brother, Mr. Chefdeville, two Recollect Fathers, and several volunteers, embarked on the river, determined to ascend it as far as possible, yet he soon changed his mind.⁴

As the Indians came prowling every night around the new fort, Joutel, whom he had cautioned against allowing them to approach too near, fired several guns to drive

La Sale
builds two
forts.

¹ Joutel, *Journal Historique*, p. 93. Thomassy (*Géologie Pratique de la Louisiane*), p. 20, cites part of the letter sent back by de la Salle to Seignelay. It is dated "March 4, 1685, at the western mouth of the river Colbert." It describes the bay at length.

² Joutel, *Journal Historique*, p. 94.

³ Joutel, who had lost his memoranda, does not profess to be certain, but thinks Beaujeu sailed March 4, 1685. Cavelier gives the same date (*Relation du Voyage*, p. 9), but

Father Anastasius Douay (*Le Clercq*, ii., p. 290; Hennepin, 211), says, 12th, as does the *Procès Verbal*.

⁴ In five canoes. Joutel, p. 95. On March 24. *Procès Verbal*. Cavelier describes the fort as having 14 cannon, with quite convenient little houses and store-houses. *Relation*, p. 11. He calls it Fort de St. Louis, p. 12. Cavelier says nothing of this excursion of la Salle, in his *Relation du Voyage*. Father Anastasius (*Le Clercq*, ii., p. 290; Hennepin, p. 211) makes Moranget com-