

1685-6.

persons under the command of Joutel, forbidding that officer to receive any of those whom he took with him, unless they handed in, a letter in his handwriting.<sup>1</sup> He had recently lost the Sieur Le Gros, who, having been bit by a rattlesnake, and not knowing the present remedy found everywhere for that bite, had been obliged to submit to an amputation of the leg, and died soon after the operation.<sup>2</sup> This storekeeper, useful in many respects, was a very good manager. He was one of those whose loss de la Sale most keenly regretted.

After the departure of the frigate, more than three months elapsed before any tidings reached (Fort) St. Louis. At last, towards the middle of January, 1686, very sad intelligence was brought by the Sieur Duhaut, whose younger brother, Dominic, had remained at the fort. The elder, who had followed de la Sale, arrived without bringing any letter from him. He was alone in a canoe, and was heard one night calling his brother. The sentinel notified the commandant, who at first feared that some melancholy accident had happened; he advanced to address Duhaut, and after the latter had assured him that de la Sale was in perfect health, he asked him whether he had his written permission to return to the fort. Duhaut replied in the negative; but he gave so apparently sincere an account of what occasioned his return, that Joutel believed he might waive enforcing the order already mentioned. He accordingly permitted Duhaut to enter the fort.<sup>3</sup> The man's account of his adventures was as follows: On arriving in sight of his frigate, de la Sale, he said, sent five of his best men to it, enjoining them to advise the pilot,<sup>4</sup> from him, to sound the anchorage in a boat. The pilot obeyed, and spent a

<sup>1</sup> Joutel, *Journal Historique*, 116. He there charges with inaccuracy the account of F. Anastasius (Le Clercq, *Etablissement de la Foi*, ii., p. 296) as to what stores he had. Cavalier, *Relation du Voyage*, p. 16, says they set out Nov. 1, 1685; Joutel says in October.

<sup>2</sup> He died Aug. 29, 1685. Joutel, p. 112.

<sup>3</sup> Joutel, *Journal Historique*, pp. 120-1.

<sup>4</sup> This pilot, Texier, was in command, the captain having died of disease. *Procès Verbal*, Ms. But see note 4, page 86.