

sought,¹ he seemed, on the whole, satisfied with his excursion, and said that he had traversed very fine districts. This did not improve his affairs much, as no one knew better than himself; but he felt the necessity of not discouraging his men, and he was an accomplished master of the art of cloaking his disappointment. The sight of Duhaut, whom he deemed a deserter, troubled him somewhat at first, and he asked Joutel why he had received him, contrary to orders. Joutel explained his reasons, and he seemed satisfied.

The next day young Cavelier, his nephew, and all whom he had sent to look for the frigate, returned to the fort, and told him that they could learn nothing of it. This threw him into a great perplexity, because he had left on board his linen, clothes, papers, and most valuable effects. Moreover, his design was to use this vessel: first, to ascend some of the rivers that he had discovered; then to dispatch it to the West Indies to ask assistance; or, to embark in person, and reconnoitre all the shore of the Gulf of Mexico till he found the Mississippi, if he should lose all hope of entering that river by one of the streams emptying into the bay.²

He, however, adopted his course with his usual firmness, and, towards the end of April, set out on a new expedition.³

¹ Joutel, p. 137, says "although he had not found the fatal river," yet Cavelier pretends (*Relation du Voyage*, p. 29) that he did reach the Mississippi, March, 10th, 1686, and left some men in a fort there, after falling in with some Shawnees, who had belonged to the party with which he descended the Mississippi, in 1682. Father Anastasius (*Le Clercq*, ii., p. 279; Hennepin, p. 217) says "Feb. 13th, 1686, he thought he found the river." In Tonty's work, as first printed, Cavelier says the same (*Voyages au Nord*, v., p. 154); but Joutel refutes

it. *Journal Historique*, p. 45. See *Early Voyages up and down the Mississippi*, p. 29.

² Joutel, *Journal Historique*, pp. 137-8; Cavelier, *Relation du Voyage*, p. 29; F. Anastasius, in *Le Clercq*, *Etablissement de la Foi*, ii., p. 298.

³ Joutel, *Journal Historique*, p. 140. Cavelier, *Relation*, p. 32, says April 13th; but Cavelier, in the *Tonty* in the *V. au Nord*, v., p. 155, and Father Anastasius (*Le Clercq*, ii., p. 303; Hennepin, p. 221), say the 23d. Father Anastasius declares he was one of the party. Joutel, pp. 140-147, is confused.