

1686-90. imity, the more admirable, as he had, during his voyage, met with irreparable losses.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. de la Sale's excursion to the Ceniz. He loses a part of his men.

He had penetrated to the Ceniz, with whom he had formed an alliance, and he was incessantly extolling the beauty and excellence of the country which he had traversed; but he was no wiser as to what he sought, and the whole profit of his excursion was reduced to five horses, loaded with some provisions, furnished by his new allies. On the other hand, out of twenty men whom he had taken with him, he brought back only eight. On arriving, he inquired whether young Duhaut, Le Clercq, Hurier, and two others, who are not named in my memoirs, were in the fort, to which he had given them leave to return. He was told that not one of them had made his appearance. He added that the Sieur Bihorel had got astray on the way, and had not been seen afterwards; that Dumenil, one of his servants, had been dragged under the water, and devoured by a crocodile; and that four others had deserted while he was among the Ceniz.<sup>2</sup>

He falls sick.

So many losses produced a bad impression on all who remained at St. Louis. La Sale did not give sufficient attention to this fact, and at once determined on a third expedition; but, as the heat was excessive, he deemed it best to defer it till the month of October. The Clamcoets kept harassing him incessantly, and killed two more of his men almost before his eyes. This confirmed his already-formed resolution to get

<sup>1</sup> Joutel, *Journal Historique*, pp. 147-151. F. Anastasius (*Le Clercq*, ii., p. 327; *Hennepin*, p. 235) says he reached the fort, October 17th. Cavalier gives no date.

<sup>2</sup> As to this expedition we have the accounts of Father Anastasius, and of Mr. Cavalier. They marched N. E., passing Indians evidently in intercourse with Spaniards, crossing the Robek, Maligne, and Hiens rivers; then struck E. to the Biska-

trongé or Weepers, passing the Kironomes, till they reached the Ceniz. Here La Sale and Moranget fell sick, and four men deserted. On his recovery La Sale started back. Anastasius, in *Le Clercq*, ii., 303-327. Sparks (*Life of La Salle*, p. 152) thinks he crossed the Colorado, Brazos, and Trinity, and reached a point near the headwaters of the Sabine, between the Trinity and Red rivers.