

his brother's death.¹ He at once told the conspirators 1687-90. that if it was their design to rid themselves of him also, he pardoned them his death beforehand, and that the only favor he asked was, that they would grant him a quarter of an hour to prepare to die. They replied that he had nothing to fear, and that no one complained of him.² Joutel was not then in the camp; Larchevêque, who was friendly toward him, started out, to warn him that his death was decided upon, if he showed the least resentment at what had happened, or pretended to exert the authority conferred upon him by de la Sale; but that if he held his peace, he (Larchevêque) would assure his life.

Joutel, who was of a very mild disposition, replied that they should be well satisfied with his conduct; that he believed they all were pleased with the manner in which he had exercised command; and that he would be but too well pleased to have no part in it. They then returned to camp, and Duhaut, as soon as he saw Joutel, cried out to him that each one must command in turn. He had himself already seized all authority, and the first exercise of it was to take possession of all the stores, which he shared with Larchevêque, saying that all belonged to them. It is asserted that there was thirty thousand francs in goods, and twenty thousand in specie and silver-plate.³ The parricides had strength and audacity on their side, and had

The assassins assume command.

¹ Joutel, p. 203. Father Anastasius says that he entered the cabin first, and that Cavalier, seeing him in tears, and the conduct of the men, who began plundering, cried out: "Ah! my brother is dead!" Le Clercq, ii., p. 343; Hennepin, p. 245. Talon (Interrogations, Ms.) says that, on entering, Duhaut told the Cavaliers what he had done; that he had done it to avenge his brother's death; and that they could retire where they pleased, as he could no longer bear the sight of them

² Joutel, *Journal Historique*, pp. 203-5. Father Anastasius (Le Clercq, ii., pp. 343-4) says he and the Cavaliers fell on their knees, and that the assassins were moved to spare them, on condition of their not returning to France; though some who wished to go back to France, were for killing them.

³ I do not know where Charlevoix found this. Nothing of the kind appears in the papers of Cavalier, who states, however, that the family advanced most of the 300,000 livres that the expedition cost.