

1700.

ed on a neighboring island, four leagues in circuit. It had at this time quite a commodious harbor, the mouth of which, then five fathoms deep at all times, was closed some years ago by the sand driven in by a storm. D'Iberville called it Massacre Isle, from his perceiving on the southwest extremity the skulls and bones of about sixty human beings, massacred, as he inferred, with several culinary articles, still entire.<sup>1</sup>

He enters  
the  
Mississippi.

From Massacre Isle, afterwards called Dauphin Island, he proceeded to the main land, and having discovered the river of the Pascagoulas, where he found many Indians, he set out with the Sieur de Sauvolle, ensign on a vessel of the line, his own brother de Bienville, a midshipman, a Recollect Father, forty-eight men on two Biscayennes, and provisions for twenty days, with the view of seeking the Mississippi, of which the Indians had spoken to him under the name of Malbouchia and the Spaniards under that of La Palisada.<sup>2</sup> He at last entered it on the 2nd of March, Quinquagesima Monday, and found that the Spanish name was quite suitable, its mouth all bristling with trees incessantly borne down by the current.<sup>3</sup>

After carefully reconnoitring this long-sought mouth, he proceeded to impart his discovery to the Marquis de Chateaumorand, who followed him slowly, and who having come only to bear him company up to this point, now

<sup>1</sup> The Journal du Voyage says over 100 skulls. The vessels were earthen pots. See Bénard de la Harpe, p. 6. Penicaut describes the visit to the island as long after, but he may not have been in the first party.

<sup>2</sup> Garcilasso de la Vega calls it Cucagua. *Charlevoix*. The Journal du Voyage does not enumerate the party, nor give the matter in this shape. The two boats under d'Iberville and de Sauvolle started Feb. 27, with 51 men in all. The Recollect was Father Anastasius Douay (ante volume iv.) The Jour-

nal of Iberville's voyage gives Malbantia as a name of the river (May 22). The name Palçada is given in Barcia, *Ensayo Cronologico*, p. 316.

<sup>3</sup> Charlevoix here omits all events in February, during which Chateaumorand sailed. The Journal du Voyage describes these trees, but does not allude to the Spanish name. Malabouchia has a suspicious resemblance to Malaboca, Spanish words for Bad Mouth. Iberville entered the river at night and on the 3d of March, 1699, Mass was said and a Te Deum chanted.