

1700.

on the 8th of January, 1700.<sup>1</sup> On arriving he learned that towards the end of September of the preceding year an English corvette of twelve guns had entered the Mississippi; that Mr. de Bienville, who had gone to sound the mouths of the river,<sup>2</sup> had met this vessel twenty-five leagues from the sea,<sup>3</sup> and had told the commander, that if he did not retire, he was strong enough to compel him; this threat succeeded; but as they retired, the English declared that they would soon return in greater force; that they had discovered the country more than fifty years before, and had a better right than the French.

Possession  
again  
formally  
taken of the  
river

D'Iberville learned at the same time that other English from Carolina were among the Chickasaws, trading for furs and slaves, and it was afterwards ascertained that they even incited these Indians to kill an ecclesiastic, who was really massacred among the Tonicas.<sup>4</sup> This information

of the month with 4 bastions, a ditch and 12 guns mounted. (French, Louisiana and Florida Hist. Coll. makes Iberville say 54 guns.) D'Iberville set sail early in May (3d. Iberville to Pontchartrain, July 3, 1699, and Sauvole in Louisiana H. C., iii., p. 223; 4th, La Harpe, p. 14; 8th, Journal du Voyage.) He reached France June 30, (Journal du Voyage) Rochefort, July 2, (Letter to Pontchartrain.) He left Sauvole in command of the fort with Bienville as King's Lieutenant, le Vasseur, Major, de Boisbriand and other officers, and M. de Bordenac, of the Badine, as chaplain, (Letter July 3.) Penicaut, ch. 1, § 3, gives the Jesuit Father du Ru as chaplain, but Charlevoix, Journal, p. 431, says du Ru came on the second voyage.

<sup>1</sup> He came in the Renommée, 50, and La Surgère in the Gironde, 46. They arrived January 5, 1700. Penicaut, ch. ii., § 1; but La Harpe says, Dec. 8, 1699, Journal p. 21.

<sup>2</sup> D'Iberville went up the Mississippi to the Natchez at once, and thence sent down Bienville, who

met the English ship; Penicaut, ch. ii.; but Sauvole, p. 229, says the meeting took place Sept. 15.

<sup>3</sup> The river at this place makes a great bend, since then known as the Detour aux Anglois.—The English Turn. *Charlevoix*. The vessel met by Bienville was one of 12 guns under Capt. Barr, which, with another, Capt. Clements, then at the mouth, had been sent out by Daniel Coxe in 1698 to form a settlement. Coxe's Carolina, Preface; Sauvole, Journal, iii., p. 229, 238, Gravier, Journal, p. 61. La Harpe, p. 29, says it was a 16 gun ship, Capt. Barr. He represents Bienville as inducing Barr to believe the Mississippi further on. Coxe says his two ships had 40 cannon and 16 pataroes, and ascribes their failure to the captain of the second ship.

<sup>4</sup> Bénard de la Harpe p. 15; Sauvole, Journal, p. 281; Gravier, Journal, p. 19; Early Voyages up and down the Mississippi, p. 126; Penicaut. The clergyman whose death is here alluded to, is the Rev. Nicholas Foucault, of the Seminary of