

frigate commanded by de Bonaventure, there was not one but thought it temerity even to attempt to resist so great an army.¹

1707.

De Subercase was almost the only one who did not despair of triumphing once more over the English, and his courage inspirited his troops. His greatest difficulty was to bring in the settlers, many of whom lived seven leagues off; but the enemy, over-confident of their strength, gave him time. They deferred their debarkation till the next day, and the Governor, uncertain as to the spot which they might choose, thought it best to retain within the fort, not only all the garrison, but also all the settlers who came flocking in.

The Governor's firmness and diligence.

At last, on the 21st, about ten in the morning, eighty long-boats or periaguas were seen full of soldiers, which drew up and landed them all on the side opposite the fort. These troops immediately began their march through the woods, and encamped a quarter of a league above the fort, from which they were separated only by a river.² Then de Subercase sent about eighty Indians and thirty settlers to file along this river, with instructions to cross it half a league higher up, and to form ambuscades in positions where they could most easily fall on the detachments that would be sent out to destroy the houses, most of which were on that side.

The troops which had landed, remained all the 22d in their camp intrenching, and on the evening of the 23d, seven or eight hundred men were detached, and marched out, preceded by a guard of ten soldiers under a lieutenant. This officer neglected the precautions proper in a wooded and unknown country: he fell into ambush and was killed with eight of his men. The other two were taken and brought to the Governor, who ascertained from them that the enemy had embarked their artillery in two

Various unsuccessful attacks.

¹ The Gazette omits this, but mentions the arrival of a privateer from St. Domingo with two prizes and 340 barrels of provisions.

² The Gazette says the fleet of 22 vessels entered at 1 p. m., on the 20th, and landed 1200 men three quarters of a league below the fort.