

1719.

sa, on his side, was not a little embarrassed in appeasing a mutiny of his men, especially of the volunteers, discontent at not being allowed to plunder the property of the French. The means adopted to allay the tumult was to surrender to them a hundred and sixty negroes belonging to the Western Company, who had taken refuge in an Indian town; he made them some other presents also, and they seemed satisfied.<sup>1</sup>

Spaniards  
defeated  
near  
Maubile.

He then thought of reducing Dauphin Island, and sent a detachment of three hundred picked men, including several Frenchmen,<sup>2</sup> giving the command to Captain Don Antonio Mendieta,<sup>3</sup> with instructions to approach the island as near as possible, in order to reconnoitre the number of soldiers and Indians who defended it. Don Antonio fulfilled his task very well. He found the Philippe, commanded by Mr. de Serigny, in the roadstead, supported by four good batteries.<sup>4</sup>

He visited the whole coast, although under fire from all quarters; and estimated the number of the French and their allies at two thousand. He then entered Maubile River, and approached Fort St. Louis, capturing five boats loaded with provisions which he saw coming out; but the French in his party having landed opposite an isolated house<sup>5</sup> in the fields, and begun to plunder it. Mr. de Vilinville, sent by de Bienville to de Serigny with a reinforcement of French and Indians, discovered them. He first detached fifteen Indians, who cut off their route; others proceeded to hide flat on the ground, at a place which they would have to pass in their flight; these did not show themselves till the enemy was within gun-shot, when with a yell they began the fight. The enemy, taken between two fires, made but a feeble resistance. Fifteen were killed on the spot; eighteen surrendered as prison-

<sup>1</sup> Barcia, *Ensayo Cron.*, p. 355.

<sup>2</sup> Barcia mentions Mr. Roque as the leader of these traitors.

<sup>3</sup> In the *Gran Diablo*. Dumont, *Memoirs*, ii., p. 16. Le Page du Pratz, i., p. 98.

<sup>4</sup> The Philippe was anchored in

the Trou du Major. Dumont, *Memoirs*, ii., p. 16.

<sup>5</sup> The house of de Miragouine, a Canadian. Dumont, *Memoirs*, ii., p. 17. They took 20,000 livres worth of goods sent there for safety.

Bénard de la Harpe, p. 154.