

1719.

Sieur de Vilinville, who joined them most seasonably, a great many Indians had flocked to him from around Maubile; Mr. de Saint Denys brought in all the Biloxi Indians, and the Concessions sent him every man able to bear arms. Thus Berroa soon perceived that it would not be easy to succeed in his enterprise. As soon as he joined Mendieta, he learned from that officer that the island was daily filling up with French and Indians, all well armed, and a landing was nowhere practicable.

Repulse of
the
Spaniards
at Dauphin
Island.

He nevertheless attempted a descent on the little Isle Guillory, which is almost connected with Dauphin Island; but this detachment found Canadians and Indians there, who repulsed them, killing more than thirty men.¹ Two days after, the commandant having embarked on the Maréchal de Villars, and hoisted the great royal standard of Spain, appeared with another ship, a great flibustier boat, carrying ten guns, and with seven sloops. He approached Dauphin Island, and the next day the two ships anchored within gun-shot of the Philippe. The sloops, which were all filled with soldiers, and the great boat at the same time, entered the port, as if with the design of cannonading the town, and under favor of their guns, effecting a landing; but they found all the French and Indians in such an attitude, that they durst not attempt anything. They renewed the same manœuvre for fourteen days in succession, sometimes at one place, and sometimes at another, and were everywhere forced to draw off without doing anything. Yet there were on the whole island only two hundred Indians, and fewer Canadians and volunteers, on whom Mr. de Serigny could depend. The soldiers, to the number of eighty men, were of the same stamp as those who had deserted at Pensacola, and he had to distrust them as much as he did the enemy.

What most incommoded the Spaniards, was the cannon of the Philippe, which was anchored within pistol-shot of the land, and a barbette battery, which de Serigny had

¹ They were commanded by Trudeau, a Canadian. Bénéard de la Harpe, *Journal Historique*, p. 156.