

The next day Mr. de Champmêlin sent his long boat with one of his officers and an officer of the Spanish general, to order the commanders of the bilanders, which had run ashore at the head of the bay, to bring them back to the port; but only French prisoners were found on board, the Spaniards having escaped to St. Joseph,<sup>1</sup> as a brigantine and periagua did at the commencement of the action. The same day the Spanish garrison marched out of Fort San Carlos, and the officers, disarmed, were sent on the ships; but they were allowed to retain their clothing and all private property. Mr. de Champmêlin chose to have in his vessel, the general, the Governor of Pensacola, Don Bruno Cavallero, Don Estevan Berroa, and Don Antonio Joseph Martinez.<sup>2</sup> But as the number of other prisoners, whom Bienville estimates at fifteen hundred, and Mr. de Serigny at twelve hundred, greatly embarrassed the squadron and would have famished it; six hundred were sent to Havana on the St. Louis. No one doubted that the enemy must have had many killed and wounded, yet only sixty in all were found, and on our side there were only six or seven.<sup>3</sup>

Early in the morning of the 24th, a brigantine was perceived, which, without mistrusting, entered the port; it was commanded by Andrew Gonzales, bringing from Havana the provisions so long expected at Pensacola. Mr. Champmêlin seized it and found wherewith to relieve all his men, who needed it extremely. Gonzales was also bearer of several letters, of which the general delivered only such as he deemed proper. By the same channel, Mr. de Bienville received one from Mr. de Chateaugué, who informed him that the Governor of Havana refused to furnish provisions to him, as well as to the officers and

1719.

The  
enemy's  
loss.

Cruelty of  
the Spaniards to the  
French  
prisoners.  
Mr. de  
Champmêlin's  
reprisals.

and reproached by de Champmêlin with his lack of courage, telling him that he was unfit to be an officer.

<sup>1</sup> Dumont, p. 24-5, charges that the Spaniards before running off laid a train so as to fire the magazine and blow up this bilander, the

Gran Diablo, with the French prisoners on board.

<sup>2</sup> Bienville to the minister, Oct. 20, 1719. Barcia, *Ensayo Cronologico*, p. 360.

<sup>3</sup> The fort was given up to the Indians to plunder. Pénicaut, ch. 21.