

Relation or Journal of the voyage of Father
Gravier, of the Society of Jesus, in 1700,
from the Country of the Illinois To the
Mouth of the Mississippi River.

Written to Father de Lamberville and Sent from Fort Mississippi, 17 Leagues from its discharge into the Mexican Gulf or sea, on The 16th of February, 1701.

MY REVEREND FATHER,
Pax Christi.

I received on my return from Michilimachinack the letter that you did me the honor of writing to me by way of the Mississippi, Addressed to Father Aveneau, who sent it to me at Chikagoua—whence I started in 1700, on the 8th of September, to come here. I arrived too late among the Illinois of the strait—of whom Father Marest has charge—to prevent the migration of the Village of the Kaskaskia, which has been too precipitately made, in consequence of uncertain news respecting the Mississippi settlement. I do not think that the Kaskaskia would have thus separated from the Peouaroua and from the other Illinois of the strait, if I could have arrived sooner.¹¹ I reached them at least soon enough to conciliate their minds to some extent, and to prevent the insult that the Peouaroua and the Mouingouéña were resolved to offer the Kaskaskia and the French when they embarked. I addressed all the Chiefs in full Council, and, as they continue to retain some respect and good will for me, they parted very