

Letter of Father Jacques Gravier, upon the  
Affairs of Louisiana.

From Fort St. Louis of Louisiana,  
this 23rd of february, 1708.

**M**Y REVEREND FATHER,  
We have at last arrived. Brother fortin is not yet here. He started three Days ago from l'Isle massacre, at which port the ship the *Renommée* anchored only on the 12th of this month of february; and from that Day I have Been constantly moving from massacre to here, and from here to massacre to get the articles which I have brought from france transported to this place.<sup>23</sup> I loaded a Boat with them; This Cost me 46 livres in money, and, If the boat do not arrive to-day, I think it must be lost, for It was laden too heavily. This resulted from the Greed for making money displayed by the master, who Overloaded it with other goods; moreover, there has been a strong wind, and there is a shoal that is greatly to be dreaded. God Be praised for everything. I beg Your Reverence to thank him sincerely for having protected me from accidents of all Kinds. Brother fortin has been ill all the time, and is still, with quartan fever. Do not count On him; he is waiting to go to Quebec. I shall not lose by it If Your Reverence will send me next year—I mean, by the first ships—a good *donné* to replace [poor Jaques].<sup>24</sup> He has received the viaticum and extreme unction, and at present is