

regard to this dignity, and the decree of the colonial council, which assigns it to the Jesuits. The council has, accordingly, stultified its own record by admitting this charge against the Jesuits.

Watrin proceeds to describe the execution of the decree expelling the order from the West. All their property, real and personal, at New Orleans is seized, and sold at auction; their chapel furniture and sacred utensils are given to the Capuchins, and the chapel razed to the ground. The Jesuit Fathers take refuge in Spanish colonies, except the superior Baudoin, who is allowed to remain as the guest of a Louisiana planter.

The decree of expulsion reaches Kaskaskia on September 23 following, and is at once carried out by the civil authorities there. The Fathers are driven from their house, and all their property is seized. Their parishioners, both French and Indian, are filled with sorrow and indignation; but the officials carry out the decree with much harshness and severity. Their property is all sold, and they are finally sent (November 24) to New Orleans,—but with scanty provision for that long and perilous journey; and they even share their own frugal supplies with their former negro slaves, now confiscated for the king. Fortunately, the officer in charge of this expedition is humane, and does what he can to mitigate the hardships of the voyage. Arriving at New Orleans, the acting commandant generously provides a lodging for them until their departure, and the Capuchin priests there show them the utmost kindness and friendship; while D'Abbadie, the royal commissary, asks the French government to grant pensions to the exiles. The council grant Meurin