

after the sale of all the property of the Jesuits: he could not count upon any fund for his subsistence, the French were under no obligation to him, and the savages have more need of receiving than means for giving; furthermore, the health of this Father was very poor, as it had always been during the twenty-one years which he had spent in Louisiana. But he knew in what danger the Illinois neophytes were of soon forgetting religion if they remained long without missionaries; he therefore counted as nothing all the other inconveniences, provided he could resume the duties of his mission. His request was granted, and a promise was given to him that a pension of six hundred livres would be asked for him at the court. The four other Jesuits who embarked on the 6th of February had the pleasure of finding themselves in the company of Monsieur the abbé Forget du Verger, of the Missions Étrangères, who came also from the Illinois country, where he was vicar-general for the episcopate of Quebec. During a ten years' sojourn in this country, he had given to the Jesuits a thousand marks of his friendship, and his company aided them much in bearing the trials of the voyage. They had quite favorable weather until they neared the Bahama channel, but it was necessary to pass the famous reef of the martyr's Island. The captain, who was very vigilant, did all that he could to avoid it. For nearly twelve hours he steered to the east; and yet, in spite of this precaution, the ship, borne on by the current, was found toward midnight to be upon the rocks which border the Martyr. The shock experienced when the ship struck was terrible; a craft less strong would have been shattered, or at least its seams would have opened; *La*