

On the 12th of March, M. de la Salle having come in sight of Kapaha about ten o'clock in the morning, with two of his canoes, and having landed on an island opposite the said village to await the rest of his company, judged by the cries and noise and the war-songs that he heard in the village that the savages were preparing to fight, and therefore caused a fort to be built on the said island, where, after some conferences, Kapaha, chief of the village came to him bearing the pipe of peace and accompanied by six of his principal savages. Peace being concluded, M. de la Salle went with all his men and the said savages to the said village, where he was received with all possible demonstrations of joy and affection both public and individual, in the midst of which the Akansas having asked aid from him against their enemies, he answered them, both of himself in the language of the Illinois which was understood by some of them, and also by one of the interpreters who accompanied him, that it was not from him that they should expect protection but from the greatest prince in the world, on the part of whom he had come to them and to all the other nations that live along their river and in its neighborhood; he had come to offer to all who would obey him all the advantages which so many people enjoy who have had recourse to his power and many of whom were not unknown to them; and after explaining to them what they were to expect and the duties to which this obedience pledged them, all having received his speech with acclamation, the said Sieur declared to them besides that in order to give an external sign of the sincerity of their promises it was necessary to erect a column where should be painted the arms of his Majesty and their express consent to recognize him as the master of their land; that in return they would be under the protection of his Majesty and in the shadow of this column which bore the signs of his dominion, and that all who should attack them would have to combat his great might and his subjects the French, who would avenge any injury which might be done them in the persons of their brothers.

This proposition being received by all, while the ceremo-