

The Court ordered a new commission to issue in 1698. He then went to Canada, where he met obstacles which compelled him to return to France.¹ During all these contradictions, a part of the people whom he had left in charge of the fort which he had built in 1695, hearing nothing of him, descended to Montreal.

We have seen above that he arrived in the colony [of Louisiana] in the month of December, 1699, with a party of thirty workmen. On the 10th of February, 1702, he arrived² with two thousand quintals of blue and green earth, having come from the Scioux. The following is an extract from the relation of his voyage:

He could not reach the Tamarois till the month of June, 1700, having made a considerable distance from the mouth of the river to that point. He left there July 12th, 1700, with a felucca and two canoes manned by nineteen persons.³

On the 13th, having advanced six leagues and a quarter, he halted at the mouth of the Missouri river, and six leagues above he left, on the east of the river, the river of the Illinois. He there met three Canadian voyageurs who were coming to join his party; he received by them a letter from the Jesuit Father Marest,⁴ dated July 10, 1700, at the Mission of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin at the Illinois, to this effect.

¹Frontenac prevented his going west, and the Court approved the governor's action in the matter.—J. G. SHEA.

²Probably at Fort Biloxi, which was still held at that date by a small French garrison, although Bienville had departed thence on Jan. 6, 1702, to transfer his colony to Mobile.—ED.

³Tamarois: one of the Illinois tribes, located near Kaskaskia, Ill., at a place afterward known as Cahokia, in the present St. Clair county. Felucca: a boat with oars and lateen sails, used on the Mediterranean; its helm may be applied to either the head or the stern, as occasion requires. Pénicaut (a carpenter by trade), who accompanied Le Sueur, states that his party numbered twenty-nine, instead of nineteen.—ED.

⁴Gabriel Marest came to Canada in 1694; four years later, he began work among the Kaskaskias of Illinois, with whom he spent the rest of his life—dying in that mission on Sept. 15, 1714. He accompanied those savages when they removed from Peoria to Kaskaskia (in the summer of 1700), teaching them to cultivate the soil and raise domestic animals.—ED.