down to Biloxi. Here we found M. d'Hyberville arrived, still busy having the ships unloaded.

After we had rested for a week, M. d'Hyberville had two longboats loaded with provisions and took thirty men and one pilot with him, and we went to take soundings off Isle Massacre,\(^{11}\) following up M. de Sauvol's report to him that a good anchorage for ships would be found there. This was in fact found to be true. At the east end of Isle Massacre, where there is a small island off shore\(^{12}\) forming a crescent-shaped harbor, thirty ships could be sheltered. In getting in, one runs right along the ground, all mud, of Isle Massacre.\(^{13}\) The channel to it and all adjacent waters were sounded and found to be good. We then went from Isle Massacre to a bay five leagues wide\(^{14}\) that is only two leagues distant from Isle Massacre. We entered this bay and went as far as a river that is nine leagues up into the headwaters of the bay, into which it empties. We ascended it for one league and found a river that empties into it on the left side, and a league farther, still another river that also empties into

\(^{11}\) Dauphin Island, at the mouth of Mobile Bay.

\(^{12}\) Now Pelican. The harbor described here, which was perhaps the most commonly used anchorage in all Louisiana from 1702 till 1717, was on the Gulf side of Dauphin Island. With the years the sands have changed, but Pelican Island, a chain running in an arc from Sand Island toward Dauphin, protects Pelican Bay, which is roughly equivalent to the old port. A French settlement, called Massacre or Dauphine, grew up on the southeast shore of Dauphin Island. The houses faced Pelican Bay.

\(^{13}\) "Pour entrer dedans, l'on joint en passant le terrein tout vase de l'isle Massacre." (Spofford, p. 92.) This sentence appears ambiguous to me: I can't be quite sure whether "le terrein... de l'isle Massacre" means the shoreline or the bottom. I let "vase," "mud or slime," determine the sense as bottom. The penman of Parkman, p. 90, seems to have been puzzled too, and he omitted "toute vase," giving "... et pour entrer dedans l'on joint en passant l'isle massacre de fort pres." See Du Sault's chart, facing p. 206.

\(^{14}\) Mobile Bay.
it. The first river we got to we named Rivière St. Martin and the second Rivière-à-Boutin.

Twelve leagues upstream we found a settlement of savages named the Mobiliens. They were not surprised at seeing us, because they had already learned that we had built a fort at Biloxi. They wanted to make preparations to sing the calumet of peace to M. d'Hyberville, but he told them that for the moment he did not have time to stop. He gave them several presents, anyhow, and left next day to go back down the Rivière de la Mobile. He took one of their chiefs with him to show him a spot on high ground, six leagues below their village on the right side going downstream. He told the chief he would order a fort to be built here and would have all the French come here to live. We then went down the river to the bay. On our way back to Fort Biloxi, two leagues from the Rivière de la Mobile we found a stream named Rivière-aux-Chiens; one league below, on the right, we found another named Rivière-aux-Chevreuils; and still a third, two leagues from Rivière-aux-Chevreuils, which we called Rivière-aux-Poulues. From there we went directly to our fort, where the illnesses were becoming frequent on account of the summer heat. This compelled

15 Identified by Hamilton (Colonial Mobile, p. 36) as either Bayou Marmotte or Bayou Chatenagua, which in American horse-and-buggy days became One Mile Creek and Three Mile Creek respectively. They were very close to downtown Mobile.
16 Probably Chickasabogue, according to Hamilton, Colonial Mobile, p. 36.
17 Up the Mobile River. The early French gave the name Mobile to the Tombigbee, as well as to the river below the fork of the Alabama and Tombigbee.
18 Dog River, entering Mobile Bay on the west side.
19 Deer River, on the west side of Mobile Bay. On the British Admiralty Chart, A.D., 1771, it is called "Buck R." Hamilton reprints this chart in Colonial Mobile, p. 210.
20 Rivière-aux-Poulues [sic] is now Fowl River on the west side of Mobile Bay. It makes Mon Louis Island. The name was once translated as Chicken River.
M. d’Hyberville to speed up the construction of the fort on the Mobile. After this, he sailed back to France with M. Le Sueure. He had had the clay from the copper mine put into his ship in order to have it assayed in France, but we have not yet received any news of that.

After the departure of M. d’Hyberville, M. de Boisbrian took sixty men and left for the Mobile to erect the fort on the spot that M. d’Hyberville had marked before his departure. During that time, M. de Sauvol, the commandant at Biloxi, who had fallen sick, died there.

M. de Bienville, who was with M. de St. Denis at the fort on the bank of the Mississippi, came down to the sea and took over the command of Fort Biloxi in the place of M. de Sauvol; and noticing that lack of water was the cause of the illnesses, he worked as fast as possible to move all the merchandise and the munitions from Fort Biloxi to the fort on the Mobile, where M. de Boisbrian, who was there, had already got the fort and the warehouses ready to hold everything securely. M. de Bienville then came to the Mobile and had the work on the fort con-

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21 In the 1870’s the Reverend E. D. Neill reported that no one had located Le Sueur’s copper mine. But he cites Featherstonhaugh (I, 2, 301-305) as saying that Le Sueur’s claim had no credit with him, for the seam contained only a “silicate of iron of a bluish-green color.” E. D. Neill and A. J. Hill (eds.), “Relation of M. Penicaud,” in Collections of the Minnesota Historical Society, III (1870-80), 11-12.

22 Twenty-Seven Mile Bluff, where the new French capital of Louisiana, Fort Louis de la Louisiane, was established. Commonly called Fort Louis de la Mobile, it was the first settlement of Europeans in the present area of Alabama and the second settlement in all the province of Louisiana, which at first did not include the Illinois Country. The name finally contracted to La Mobile.

23 On August 21, 1701, according to Rowland and Sanders, MPA, II, 9 and note.

24 “To la Mobile.” I cannot tell whether to translate “to Mobile” or “to the Mobile.” At this stage of the narrative the river is the better choice, since the post had not been fully developed; still, Pénicaud may have meant the little town, for he was writing years after the name La Mobile had developed for the town.
cluded, both on the lodgings for the *habitants* \(^{25}\) and on the fortifications.

This fort was sixty toises \(^{26}\) square. At each of the four corners there was a battery of six pieces of cannon which, protruding outside in a half circle, covered the sector in front and to right and left. Inside, within the curtains, were four fronts of buildings fifteen feet back from the curtains behind them. These buildings were to be used as chapel, as quarters for the commandant and the officers, as warehouses, as guardhouse. So, in the midst of these buildings there was a *place d'armes* forty-five toises square. Barracks for the soldiers and the Canadians were built outside the fort, to the left, one hundred and fifty steps away, on the bank of the Rivière de la Mobile.\(^{27}\) During the winter we were kept busy putting the finishing touches to all these buildings.

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\(^{25}\) Not inhabitants, but settlers; sometimes the word means farmers.

\(^{26}\) The *toise* is approximately 6.4 feet.

\(^{27}\) Only a marker at Twenty-Seven Mile Bluff shows that the capital of a great part of the United States—the province of Louisiana—was located here. No building remains, and trees and brush have reclaimed France's colonial capital on Rivière de la Mobile.