

carrying out the arrangements he had made. * * *
The wind storm which forced the General to set sail on the 28th of October ceased on the 30th; and on the 31st the Count de Broves convened the captains and consulted us to what course should be adopted in case M. D'Estaing did not again make his appearance. Upon this supposition, and without taking into consideration the time which might be necessary for him to rejoin us, it was unanimously resolved that we should set sail that very evening, taking sea-room some leagues to the windward, and that after cruising several days, waiting for the General, should he not appear, we would steer for France: M. D'Estaing having intimated his desire to return thither as quickly as possible.

I permit myself to observe, in this connection, that the condition of the weather giving no occasion for alarm and being even favorable to M. D'Estaing's rejoining us, it was necessary that we should at least allow him time to do so, and hold ourselves in readiness to sail upon the first appearance of a storm. It seemed probable that M. D'Estaing lacked anchors, having let go the only two which he had, in the hope that they would take firm hold and prevent him from being forced to sea. It was therefore more than likely that he would return to take up the smaller of these anchors, even if he did not come back to finish giving his orders. The two days spent in waiting for him, while we were obeying his instructions, were made profitable to the public service in that they were employed in raising the anchors of the ships which had been compelled to cut them.

On the 31st M. de Broves got under way with a portion of his ships, and came to anchor half a league to the windward of his first anchorage. The next day the others set sail to appear here no more, leaving *l'Ariel*, laden with mulattoes, without destination. M. du Romain was still in the river, not having received his orders. The frigates, under the command of M. de Marigny, departed for Grenada.

The first night we were under way, with most beautiful weather, *le Marseillois* and *le Zélé* separated themselves from us and steered together for France. *Le Tomant* and *la Provence* were already absent,