The Journey of Iberville
France
Cuba
A
B
C
Canada
Louisiana

"Iberville and Louisiana"

Madison Vise

I, Sieur d' Iberville, am writing to you to tell you about the great adventures of my life which started right when I was born. Let me explain; I was born into a family of thirteen children, eleven of us were boys, so I was destined for greatness, child and adult. Like my brothers I became more loyal to France as I matured even though I live in Canada or "New France". I always knew I wanted to serve France so I fought for them against the Europeans in America and Europe. It was a great feeling, the kind of feeling you live your whole life for, so when I wanted to be even greater I took the King of France up on his offer to find the land that La Salle had claimed for France, so that way other rival nations could not access this land.

I set out on my expedition with my younger brother, Sieur d' Bienville, and came across islands near the coast of present-day Mississippi. I named it Ship Island because it provided a good harbor for our ships. After that we set out to find the Mississippi River where we questioned the local Indians, who told us about the "speaking bark." It was a letter left by Tonti to La Salle which helped prove we found the Mississippi, but we decided that the Gulf Coast offered better land for a colony and harbor for ships, also plenty of trees. I also didn't like the fact that when we were searching the land there was so many alligators that could bite your head off. Still to protect our land we established three forts; first, Fort Maurepas near present-day Biloxi; second, Fort Mississippi fifty-four miles above the mouth of the river; and third, Fort Louis in Mobile Bay.

I went back to France to request more colonist and supplies, but this was ignored, instead I was required to join the military and help with the war in Europe. Although this was a great

feeling I never gave up hope that I would one day return to Louisiana. That day finally came, and I was on my way back but I got Yellow Fever in Havana, Cuba. I knew I wasn't going to make it so I took a good look back at my life, my adventures, my family, my greatness, and with that I felt that once- in- a-lifetime feeling again, and decided I was happy with my life which *was* in-fact destined for greatness. I had done my job for the King and named the land Louisiana, which in French was "Land of Louis"; with my good life remembered I prayed to the good Lord in thanks.