

try; and for this purpose these animals must be tamed and parked, and calves sent to France. Although the pearls presented to his Majesty are not fine either in water or shape, they must nevertheless be carefully sought, as others may be found, and his Majesty desires Mr. d'Iberville to bring all he can; ascertain where the fishery is carried on, and see it in operation."

1700.

It was soon admitted that the pearl fisheries were not worth the trouble of prosecuting;<sup>1</sup> but we do not yet well understand why the first object has been hitherto neglected, not only for the wool,<sup>2</sup> but also for the leather, or what has prevented multiplying these cattle in France. At all events, it was not Iberville's fault, as before his return to France, he issued wise orders on the point, which were never enforced.

The King had also adopted excellent measures for carrying the light of the gospel to the different tribes dwelling on the banks of the Micissipi, and then much more numerous than now. D'Iberville took over the Jesuit Fathers Dongé and Du Ru, and Father Limoges came from Canada; but the Bishop of Quebec, whose diocese already the most extensive in Christendom, had just been augmented by a country larger than France, exacted from them conditions which were unsuited to them: moreover, Mr. de Montigny, and two other clergymen from the Seminary of the Foreign Missions, had come from Quebec to Louisiana, with all the bishop's powers. The Jesuits thought that they could see an indisposition in these clergymen to act in concert with them, and received orders from their Superiors to retire.<sup>3</sup>

The King's interest in the instruction of the Louisiana Indians.

<sup>1</sup> The pearls were found on the river of the Pascagoulas, and the Pearl evidently derives its name from them.

<sup>2</sup> This idea of making bison wool an article of trade, runs all through la Salle's documents, but never seems to have been for a moment seriously thought of in America, although it quite took the fancy of

many. Remonville's proposals alluded to the wool and to the domestication of the bison, but do not mention the pearl fisheries.

<sup>3</sup> The Mission of the Seminary of Quebec on the Mississippi, was established by Bishop de St. Valier, May 1, 1698. The Rev. Francis Joliet de Montigny was appointed Superior and Vicar-General and set out