

1713. his majesty reserved on condition of paying homage and fealty at the Castle of Louysbourg, from which he will relieve without fine :¹ and this for the purpose of establishing a sedentary cod fishery.²

Why it did
not
succeed.

In January of the ensuing year, the Count de Saint Pierre obtained new patents, granting, on the same tenure and conditions, the Magdalen Islands, Botou or Ramées, the islands and islets adjacent, as well for the cultivation of the soil and getting out of lumber as for cod, seal and walrus fishery : and he would apparently have carried out his project had all his associates resembled him. But he experienced the disgust inseparable from societies where all the members are not born with noble thoughts, and are held together by no tie but interest.

This project experienced what always happens in such cases, when all interested seek to have an equal share in the direction, when the first advances are not made with a perfect knowledge of the nature and advantages of the place, and the obstacles to be met there ; and when men are not at liberty to select persons fitted to carry out the designs which had been formed. From neglecting to adopt all these measures, the first attempts failed, but as they despaired of adopting any better, the enterprise was abandoned.

The
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1714.

However all the operations undertaken after the conclusion of peace in regard to Isle Royale, gave little concern to the Marquis de Vaudreuil, the royal orders being generally addressed to de Costebelle and de Saint Ovide. But that general was no sooner relieved from anxiety in regard to the English, and assured of the pacific disposition of the Iroquois, who had come in 1714 to renew their alliance with him, and even offered their mediation in case of a new rupture with the English, than, in concert with

knowledging no lord but the king. Bouchette, Topographical Description of Lower Canada, p. 12.

¹ Pichon, Lettres, pp. 54-80.

² St. Jean, with the neighboring islands of Ramée, was known in

Cartier's time. Champlain describes it. Voyages, i., p. 126, (Ed'n 1830.)

It was granted in 1663 to Sieur Doublet, but depended on Miscou and the Fishing Company set up there.