

also, that the island received the name of Dauphin Island.¹ It was gradually settled, and some years after, a fort was built there with larger storehouses, so that it became insensibly the headquarters of the colony.²

The settlers depended for subsistence on what came from France and what could be obtained from the Indians. They quarrelled and then made peace with some tribes; many Indians were induced to settle in the neighborhood of Mobile, where they cleared quite a large tract, and always lived harmoniously with the whites. Others, like the Apalaches, came there of their own accord, preferring the French to the Spaniards, among whom they had long been settled; but these last excepted, to whom for a time a missionary was assigned, no more suitable steps were taken to gain the Indians of these parts to Christ, than were adopted to give a solid foundation to the French colony.³

Slow
progress of
the colony.

1702; although Pénicaut states it, ch. 4, § i., but he is somewhat confused, making Sauvolle die after the departure of d'Iberville and le Sueur, (April, 1702. La Harpe, p. 70-2,) while Bénard de la Harpe says he died Aug. 22, 1701.

A memoir of d'Iberville in 1702, Archives de la Marine, Louisiane, Portef. ix., gives his reasons for the founding of Mobile. The population of the place was 139. Sauvolle left a Journal from May 3, 1699, to Aug. 1701, which Mr. French has published in his Louisiana Hist. Coll., iii., pp. 223-240.

¹ Pénicaut, ch. 4. Isle Surgère at the same time took the name of Ship Island.

² Settlers removed to the island from Mobile in 1707. Pénicaut, ch. 9; and Gravier in 1708 mentions the fort as projected, Letter, p. 17. It was built in 1709 by Capt. La Vigne Voisin. Pénicaut.

³ The Apalaches were a tribe from Florida, among whom the Spanish

missionaries had labored successfully. They were all Christians, and the chiefs could read and write. Exposed, however, to the English and Alibamas, they retired to Mobile in the latter part of 1705. Bienville gave them lands and seed. A Rev. Mr. Huet became their pastor. Pénicaut, ch. 7, § 6. Father Gravier in 1708 says, however, that this clergyman, whom he calls Huré, had not then learned the language. Lettre sur les Affaires de la Louisiane, p. 8. The missions founded by the Seminary of Quebec among the Tonicas, Natchez, Taensas, Alibamons &c., had not been very successful. Two missionaries, Rev. Messrs. St. Cosme and Foucault were killed, and others withdrew, Rev. Mr. Davion being the last, and he finally abandoned the Tonicas about 1716. The Jesuit Father Limoge labored for a time among the Oumas. See Shea, Catholic Missions, 439-44, also Early Voyages up and down the Mississippi, pp. 45-86.