

1712-25. sible to create judges there as in other colonies, the population being so small, he had nevertheless deemed it best to establish a Superior Council there for three years, to judge all matters, civil and criminal; to compose this council, he selected the Governor and Commissaire Ordonnateur jointly, and one clerk; that by their conduct in discharging the judicial powers vested in them, he would decide either to continue and increase the powers of the Council or abandon it.¹

The Spaniards refuse to allow trade between Louisiana and Mexico.

Meanwhile, de Crozat had recommended de la Motte Cadillac, whom he had made a partner in his trade, to send detachments towards the Illinois to discover mines; and towards the Spaniards of Old and New Mexico, to open trade with those two provinces. I have spoken in my Journal² at length on the former of these two enterprises, which kept all France in suspense for several years, and at last came to nothing.

Nor was the second more successful. Scarcely had La Motte Cadillac landed at Dauphin Island,³ before he dispatched the ship that had brought him to Vera Cruz; but this voyage was useless. Mr. de la Jonchere⁴ who commanded the vessel, could not obtain the Viceroy's permission to sell his cargo; the Viceroy presented him some cattle and provisions that he needed, and then required him to set sail at once.⁵ The Governor hoped to succeed better in a second attempt made overland with the same

¹ This Council was permanently established in 1716. *Charlevoix*.

² Journal, p. 393. In 1719 de Lochon was sent to the Maramég to work a supposed silver-mine; he got some poor lead, and in disgust returned to France. The Western Company then sent one Antonio, a Spanish prisoner, who pretended to find silver. The matter was then taken by La Renaudiere, and a brigade of royal miners, who failed utterly. In June, 1721, Renaud, acting for a private company, found a vein of lead two feet thick. *Ib.*

³ He came early in 1712 in the Baron de la Fosse, a 40 gun vessel, Capt. de la Jonquière. Pénicaut, ch. xiv., § 1. Bénard de la Harpe, p. 110.

⁴ Pénicaut and Bénard de la Harpe write de la Jonquière. An officer of the same name, James Peter de Tafanell, Marquis de la Jonquière, was Governor of Canada from 1747 to 1752, N. Y. Col. Doc., x., p. 250.

⁵ The Spaniards acted thus to please the English, to whom they had granted the Assiento Company