

Tonicas with fifty men to the Natchez, where the Sun, followed by all his towns, received him as he disembarked from his canoe. 1712-25.

The next day he selected the spot where he wished the fort erected; it was laid out at once, and de Pailloux appointed to superintend the work. It was completed at the end of six weeks, and Bienville, who had returned to his camp at the Tonicas, came up with all the French to take possession. He added quarters for the officers, barracks for the soldiers and magazines both for merchandise and for ammunition and army stores.

Post established among these Indians.

The fort was named Rosalie, after Madame de Pontchartrain, wife of the Chancellor, a name, as I have elsewhere observed, already proposed by Mr. d'Iberville for a city which he designed founding at this very spot. The Natchez then sang the calumet to Mr. de Bienville,¹ who spent all the rest of that year, 1714² at Rosalie. Before leaving it, he placed the Sieur de Pailloux in command, assigning to him du Tisé as lieutenant. He proceeded at once to Maubile, where he remained only long enough to prepare a great convoy, which he himself conducted to the Natchez.

It was about the same time that Mr. de Saint Denis arrived at Maubile, and as the reply which he bore from the Viceroy of New Spain deprived de la Motte Cadillac of all hope of carrying on trade with the Spaniards openly, he thought it his duty to prevent their approaching too closely to us, as they seemed bent on doing; with this view, he dispatched the Sieur du Tisé to build a fort on the Island of the Natchitoches. Scarcely was this fort completed when du Tisé was informed that the Spaniards had established a post among the Assinais, and there was every reason to believe that they designed to push on to the Micissippi, had they not been prevent-

Fort built at the Natchitoches.

¹ August 25. Richebourg, p. 252.

² He reached Mobile Oct. 4, and there found a royal order, appointing him to command in the absence

of Mr. de l'Épinay, appointed to succeed Cadillac. See also as to this Natchez war, Ducloux to the minister, June 7, 1716. Gayarré, i., p. 130.