

1721. ing St. Bernard's or Saint Louis Bay, but he did not select the right man for the enterprise. This man entered the Magdalen River, which he met on his way, and ascended it five or six leagues. He found the Indians on their guard all along, resolved not to suffer any strangers in their country. He told them that he came to form an alliance with them, and to improve their condition, but they answered that they were satisfied as they were, and preferred their liberty to all the advantages offered them. The officer, however, found means to allure some of their chief men on board, where he retained them. He at once set sail and brought them to Biloxi. De Bienville sharply censured this treacherous act, and sent the Indians home; but the next year he learned that the Spaniards from Vera Cruz had built a fort in Saint Bernard's Bay.¹

Towards the end of May, 1722,² a Spanish brigantine, carrying twenty-two guns and two hundred and fifty men,

¹ The Viceroy of New Spain, in June, 1718, sent Don Dionisio Perez Ballones to occupy Espiritu Santo, or St. Bernard's Bay; (see Charlevoix, Jour., p. 452,) but he was unable to enter the channel. Barcia, *Ensayo Cronologico*, p. 342. The West India Company was very urgent in its orders to occupy the bay, and the King, Nov. 16, 1718, issued an order, but the colonial authorities merely sent a coaster under Berranger to explore it. La Harpe, p. 233, 235. On the 10th of August, 1721, Bienville sent La Harpe in the *Subtile*, Capt. Berranger, with 20 soldiers to occupy it. *Ordres, &c. Ib.*, p. 257. He entered a bay at 28° 20,' Aug. 27, (p. 263,) and took off nine natives, (p. 275.) Pénicaud, ch. xxiii. The real St. Bernard's, or Espiritu Santo, was occupied by Martin de Alarcon in 1718. *Ib.*, 275. For the Spanish occupation, see Don Juan Antonio de la Peña, *Diario del Viage del Marques de San Miguel*,

MS.; Bonilla, *Compendio de los Sucesos ocurridos en Texas*, MS.; Morfi, *Historia de Texas*, MS. We here lose Pénicaud, who sailed to France Oct. 3, 1721, to obtain medical treatment for his eyes, and a pension for his relief after 22 years' services.

² Barcia cites among his authorities, *Situacion del Presidio de Santa Maria de Galve*, escrita por su Gobernador, el Coronel Don Juan Pedro Matamoros, MS. *Diario de lo acaecido en las Perdidas y Restauracion del Presidio de Santa Maria, Prision, y Libertad de los Españoles*, desde el dia 14 de Maio de 1719, hasta 3 de Junio de 1720, by the same, and *Relacion de la Expedicion, hecha por los Franceses en el Puerto y Presidios de Santa Maria de Galve a Pençacola y Restauracion por las Armas de España, &c.*, escrita por Don Alfonso Carrascosa de la Torre. Barcia's work was printed July, 1722, and has nothing as to the restoration of Pensacola.