

the Missouri River, left for the first lieutenant of the same company, Don Pedro Piernas, his successor,²² according to the usual custom, by order of Don Antonio de Ulloa, governor and captain-general of this province.²³

First: Every band of Indians shall be received in council upon their arrival at this post, and as soon as they have finished what they have to say, he shall answer that he is very glad that his children have taken the trouble to come to see him. Then he shall tell them that if they have brought any furs to trade with the traders, they shall do it forthwith, so that by doing so they may return sooner to their tribe. A day and hour shall be assigned to them for the commandant's answer to them; and for that time he shall have ready the present which is to be given to them. That present shall be placed before them, and they shall receive answer to as many matters as they discussed in the preceding council.

²² Pedro Piernas was a Spanish officer who had entered the army in 1747, and came to Louisiana with Ulloa. He was first made commandant of the fort at Natchez; but late in 1768 was ordered to relieve Rui at the Illinois. Having done so (March 10, 1769), Rui returned to New Orleans, and Piernas to St. Louis. There the latter received word of the revolution in New Orleans, and quietly yielded up all authority to St. Ange. The following year he was sent by O'Reilly to take over the command of Spanish Illinois from St. Ange, which was effected May 20, 1770. At this time he received the rank of lieutenant-governor of Spanish Illinois. There he remained for five years, then returned to New Orleans, where he was made lieutenant-colonel and commander of the colonial troops, a position that he was still holding in 1785. He married a French Creole, and was popular with that people.—Ed.

²³ Don Antonio de Ulloa was a savant and astronomer of much repute in Europe. Born at Seville in 1718, he went in 1736 to South America on an astronomical mission, and also acted as military and diplomatic agent. After several years of this employment, he was captured by the English on returning to Spain, but released (1746) at the instance of the Royal Society of London. His services were rewarded by appointment as superintendent of mines in Peru. In 1765 he was sent to take over Louisiana for the Spanish. Arriving at New Orleans March 5, 1766, he was coldly received, and soon alien-