

lawyers of eminence, James Brown and Moreau Lislet, to prepare a Civil Code, with express instructions to make the Civil Law by which the Territory was then governed, the ground work of the Code.

On 31st March, 1808, the Code was adopted by the Territorial Legislature, and all the ancient laws inconsistent with it were repealed. The effect of this was, that the Spanish laws remained in force, to the extent to which they were not in conflict with the Code of 1808, and they were quoted and acted on as authoritative until 1828.

On the 28th March, 1828, the legislature repealed all the civil laws of the State which were in force prior to the Code of 1825, except so much of the title tenth of the Code of 1808 as treated of the dissolution of corporations.

The State of Louisiana was admitted into the Federal Union under the dominion of the Code of 1808, and the Spanish laws not in conflict with that Code.

On the 20th February, 1811, Congress passed an act to enable the people of the "Territory of Orleans" to form a constitution and State government, and for the admission of said State into the Union on an equal footing with the original States. 2 Stat. 641.

The people, in convention assembled, having framed a constitution, and adopted the name of Louisiana as the title of the new State, Congress, on 8th April, 1812, declared Louisiana to be one of the United States of America, and admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States in all respects whatever. Provided, that it should be taken as a condition upon which the said State is incorporated into the Union, that the river Mississippi, and the navigable rivers and waters leading into the same, and into the Gulf of Mexico, shall be common highways and forever free as well to the inhabitants of other States and the territories of the United States, without any tax, duty, impost or toll therefore, imposed by the said State, and that the above condition, and also all the other conditions and terms, contained in the third section of the act of 1811, shall be taken and deemed as fundamental conditions and terms upon which the said State is incorporated into the Union.

It was further declared, that all the laws of the United States not locally inapplicable were by that act extended to the said State.