

towards the savages of Canada, may serve as an example to those who shall be employed hereafter in the same situations. From the moment that a murder was committed, all communication with the traders was interdicted, until the criminal was discovered and executed. If any horses were stolen, the same mode was resorted to until they were restored. An act of mercy is in the eyes of the savages, an act of weakness; and one crime unpunished, always encourages the commission of a second.

Louisiana, by the treaty between Spain and the United States in 1796, received new boundaries. Its limits, which before comprehended both the banks of the Mississippi as far as the Ohio, were fixed to the left bank of this fine river, below the 32°; and Spain only remained in possession of the whole course from this place to its mouth, which is in 29° 51', according to general estimate.

From the 30° of latitude, Louisiana enjoys the advantages of all the climates in Europe, and can supply all their productions. The air is salubrious, the land fertile, and the mines abundant; it is so well supplied with rivers, that the inhabitants are certain of an easy and uninterrupted communication to a great distance. Sugar, cotton, indigo, rice, and tobacco, grow in the southern part; while in the more temperate parts, the earth produces abundant crops of corn, barley, maize, &c.

France is situated in the most temperate climate in the world; the lands are rich, its inhabitants laborious and industrious; but its territories are so confined, that notwithstanding its fertility, the crops are often destroyed, either by drought or superabundance of rain. In those seasons, the inhabitants are obliged to obtain from their neighbours, corn, and other necessities of life.

Let us suppose Louisiana peopled so that its fertile lands were cultivated, and its meadows covered with flocks; then would France, in years of scarcity, find in it a certain resource. Excessive rains, or great drought, can only be partial in a country of so great an extent; and that part which has not suffered will always have an overplus to export.

To these advantages we may add those which France would derive for her navy from Louisiana. Being destitute of timber, she is obliged to obtain it from foreign countries, as also hemp. But if once in possession of this fine colony, she would find resources in herself. The cedar, the cypress, the acacia, the different species of oak, which are all fit for ship-building, cover its surface; and hemp, without cultivation, grows to a great height, and is even superior to that of the north of Europe. From the experiments which have been made by command