

conducive to the regulation and increase of the Commerce, Mines and settlement of these Countries.

But, however well his Excellency understood the necessity of these informations, in order to proceed with certainty in the execution of his designs, he was much embarrassed with the difficulty of finding people of sufficient abilities for such a Commission; when the illustrious *Don Joseph de Galvez*, appointed to visit the Provinces of *Cinloa* and *Sonora*, infligated by the same zeal as the Viceroy, took off the weight of this difficulty, by offering to go personally to *California*, to fulfill these great ideas, and to put into execution some projects, that were esteemed to be of the greatest importance.

His Excellency the Viceroy applauded and accepted the generous offer of the illustrious *Don Joseph de Galvez*, and giving him every assistance, as well Military as Political, the Visitor-General prepared for his Voyage, and left *Mexico* the 9th of April, 1768.

In May of the same year He arrived at the Port of *San Blas*, a Fort and Settlement, lately made, on the Coast of *New Galicia*, in the *South Sea*, where the Vessels, designed for the Navigation and Trade of *Sonora*, had been built, and where they were then constructing other Vessels, to be employed in the Intercourse and Trade of *California*.

Being at this Port, with intention to sail for the *Peninsula*, *Don Joseph de Galvez* received some dispatches from *Mexico*,

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