

THE Court of *Spain* having received information of the repeated attempts of a foreign Nation \* upon the Northern Coasts of *California*, with views not at all favourable to the *Spanish* Monarchy and Its Interests, the King ordered the *Marquis de Croix*, His Viceroy and Captain General in *New Spain*, to take effectual care to guard that part of his Dominions from all invasion and insult.

The *Marquis de Croix* had adopted the ideas of the Sovereign on this subject; and, at the time of the expulsion of the Jesuits from *New Spain*, had appointed a military and political Governor of *California*, to execute the same purpose in that Province, to keep it in obedience to the King, to preserve it in peace, and to send advice of whatever might occur.

His Excellency had also determined to send, to the said *Peninsula*, intelligent persons to reconnoitre every part of it, and to give an account of the state of the Missions; of the disposition, qualities and number of the natives; of their manner of living and customs; of the natural productions of that country; of the nature of the Mines, the modes of working them, and *who had the Profit*; <sup>b</sup> what Settlements of *Spaniards*, or of other people, were established; and lastly, of the nature and quality of its Coasts, Ports and Seas: that by means of these informations, orders and regulations might be made

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conductive

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\* *Russians?*

<sup>b</sup> De quienes las disfrutaban.