

while, the people of France were wished to believe that the colony was in the most flourishing state. In 1711, the Isle Dauphine was ravaged by corsairs; causing a loss to the crown of property valued at 80,000 francs. The colony was founded on unsound bases, observes Raynal, and could not long prosper. "Going on from bad to worse," says he, "there remained in it but 28 impoverished families; when the public was surprised to learn, in 1712, that M. Crozat* had asked and obtained for himself a 16 years' lease of the whole trade of Louisiana."—But before proceeding with the annals of this colony, it is time to return to the affairs of Canada, our more immediate subject.

* In the original printed 1742, by mistake. Antoine Crozat, marquis du Châtel, was a rich financier, probably one of the farmers-general.—B.

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