

HISTORY OF CANADA.

BOOK SIXTH.

CHAPTER I.

ESTABLISHMENT OF LOUISIANA.

1683-1712.

Province of Louisiana.—Louis XIV puts several vessels at the disposal of La Sale to found a Settlement there.—His departure with a squadron; and misunderstandings with his colleague, M. de Beaujeu.—He misses the sea-entry of the Mississippi, and is landed in Matagorda bay, Texas.—Shameful conduct of Beaujeu, who leaves La Sale and the colonists to their fate.—La Sale builds two fortlets, and calls one St. Louis.—He explores several parts of the country, to no good purpose, during several months, and loses many of his men.—Despairing of finding the Mississippi, he sets out for the Illinois, in view of obtaining succour from France.—Part of his companions murder him and his nephew.—His assassins fall out; and two of their number killed by the others.—Joutel and six of the party, leaving the conspirators behind, reach the Illinois.—Sad fate of most of the party left in the Texas territory.—D'Iberville undertakes to re-colonise Louisiana, and settles a colony at Biloxi (1698-8).—Appearance of the British on the Mississippi.—The Huguenots ask leave to settle in Louisiana, but are refused.—D'Iberville demands free trade for his colony.—Illusive metallic riches of the country.—The Biloxians removed to Mobile in 1701.—The colony progresses apace.—Death of M. d'Iberville.—An intendency appointed, and its evil results.—Louisiana ceded to M. de Crozat. (1712).

The name LOUISIANA was given, in days past, to all the countries situated on the Gulf of Mexico, and which extends from the bay of Mobile: *i. e.* eastward, up to the sources of the rivers which fall into the Mississippi; to the westward, as far as to