Pages 303-304

14 Feb 1777

To the Captain of La Bahía (Cazorla) from Galvez? Or Governor of Louisiana, Unzaga? Or Bucareli?

Document 2 (Pages 303-307)\*

Through the diary you attached to your letter dated last January 18th I found out about the misfortune of the French brigantine El Renombrado. Its captain, Pedro Aubrique, having sailed last October from the bay of Louisiana with a shipment of planks and other objects, and passengers with destination to Habana, sank in that coast mid-December, surviving only people and documents, lest a Frenchman, an Irishman and three soldiers who perished on board at the time of the tempest.

After I received these documents with the box containing more papers, I sent them to the postal service administrator of this capital to be addressed to the postal service administrator of that province for its proper shipping; and so your shipping of such documents, as you have extraordinarily done, as well as what you have done for the people on board deserves my approval for being in accordance with the laws of humanity.

From my part there is no inconvenient for the captain and French sailors to return by land to Louisiana, where they sailed from, there is also no inconvenient in allowing the Irish passengers and their servants to be transported to this capital and from here to Veracruz and from there travel to Habana, their original destination; and you can let people know of my order, which is why I am sending you the papers of the ship’s registry; the passport conferred to captain Aubry by the Governor of (continues page 304) that Don Luis de Unzaga, and the license with which Don Ricardo Holmes, his brother and two negro servants were traveling with; for the negroes, however, you shall issue another license, expressing this order and pertinent details to make their displacement safe, and without impediment from the Justice of Transit.

What has been set forth with the gentile Indians from the Carancahua Nation goes accordingly with your prudence and zeal in order to keep them friendly, likely to alert promptly of any such incidents; I also warn the Governor of that province, Varon de Riperda, and ask Teodoro de Croix, Commandant General of the Inner Provinces, to alert with corresponding punctuality.