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A geographical description
of the Province of Texas

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The Province of los Tejas, thus called, because when the Spaniards entered it about 80 of last century, the native Indians said to them teksa, which means in their language friend; this was often repeated by the natives and strangers mainly in the year 1680 by the soldiers of General Leon. The name of tejas came to be the name of the country; previously it was called florida and today is called Luisiana (in said year of ~~1689~~ 1680), since the French occupied the country in the time of the most christian King Luis XIV. The discovery of a new land was attributed to him which was many years previous explored by the Spaniards, calling them to the River Iteschasibi, River of la Palisada, River Rojo and River of Caudachos, and some called it River of San Andres, because of the many islands, which form waters in the form of crosses (wings) and so the French Nation taking the name of Palizada for that of Meschasipi, the name of Caudachos for that of Florida in Luisiana; they emptied into the Gulf of Mexico and in la Mediania which was formerly peopled by the Spaniards; on the east side from Penzacola up to San Agustin of Florida and on the west side from the limits of la Bahia del Espiritu Santo to Veracruz, going up from the settlement here from Veracruz to Tampico, from Tampico to all of Nuevo Reyno de Leon, which is not far from said Bahia del Espiritu

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Santo, called by the French now Bahia de San Luis, now Bahia de San Bernardo; besides the glory which cannot be denied said French Nation is that they opened the way from Quebec Court of Canada to the Gulf of Mexico by travelling southwest on River San Lorenzo until they reached the lakes Ontario, Herie, Huron and Illinois, where reaching by River Miami and leaping in that of los Illinois, which flows southwest generally and that of Miami to northeast, a fourth to the north, they converfed in the Gulf of Mexico thru the River Palizada which the French call Meschasupi. ⁴³⁰⁴ It was a day's journey made as a discovery hardly heard in Europe and which took in more than a 1200 leagues, it being certain that by including all of New France up to Panzacola it does not pass 40 degrees latitude which make 800 French leagues and by taking from these 400 which are from Quebec up to River Miami only remain 400 leagues from the new discovery which was almost from north to south drawing a line from the mouth of River Palizada up to Quevec and moreover the line from northeast to south east as the discovers wished which the French increased a little to a few leagues to 800; finally of the Spanish leagues, though thr mouth of River Palizada ran to 28 degrees, the country does not reach 800 leagues and ^{sienda} ~~since~~ its mean (half-way) with little difference said River Miami in regard to said Quebec and this river in 40° degrees latitude, there are only 10 degrees to the Gulf of Mexico in the inlet of Man^vSacro which is the most northern part of the gulf and there remains only 200 leagues of new discovery and this is the land which is called Florida according to

ancient ^{geographic} geophric charts and there is no new discovery than to sail the lakes of Herie, Huron and Illinois to inspevt their shores. All the other lakes are to the east and very near New York (Nueva Yorke) and Cardina, for which reason River Ovion and another more to the south go to the boundaries of Carolina by one travelling almost west many leagues and the other to west, southwest until united at 35° latitude running generally south towrds its mouth. At the emd of last century in 1784 Lord dela Sala wanted to enter upon said discovery which had been done two years previously and not reaching ant of the mouths of River Palizada which rose twice and emptied into Bahia del Spiritu Santo, cal~~ed~~ San Luis. There he tried to found a colony which was not able to exist because of the ferocity of the natives which they never showed against the Spaniards. Then a fort was built called San Luis in said Bahia by said Senor dela Sala who ordered that some (end fr. 4304)

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