

giving an account of the custom and manners of the ancient Acadians, with remarks on their removal from the Province, and the causes thereof.

Lieut. Governor Archibald discussed the question of the Acadian expulsion at considerable length, and took occasion to say that at first the expulsion seemed wholly indefensible, but the more he had examined the question the more convinced he had become that if the British were to remain in the country they had no other course to pursue. From the conquest in 1713 to 1755, the Government had repeatedly pressed on the French the importance of taking the oath of allegiance, failing that, to leave the country. The Acadians would do neither, and the result was their expulsion.

His Honour took occasion to refer to the progress which had been made in so short a time in building up a really great library. If we had hunted all over the Dominion we could not have found a man so fitted for his work as the present librarian, and Mr. Bulmer had done more in two years to gather together a great collection of books than any librarian in Canada had done in twenty-five. We had now 671 vols. of bound newspapers, and over 500 unbound—a total of nearly 1200 volumes, nearly all printed in this Province, and covering a period from 1764 to 1881. We had a collection of pamphlets extending from 1772 to date, and numbering over 12,000, and covering almost every public question ever discussed. We had books printed in Nova Scotia as far back as 1758, and all ever printed since. Our library from holding a tenth-rate position a little over a year ago, to-day takes rank as the third in Canada, being only surpassed by the great collections in Laval University and the Library at Ottawa. Our Province, though small, has a large and better library than the great Province of