

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 18

"[Proby] arrived from Halifax with 7 transports under her Convoy, in order to carry the French Inhabitants."

"Oct. 1st.—Stormy Dark Night. Eighty six French Prisoners Dugg under ye wall att Foart Lawrence and got Clear undiscovered by ye centery."

"Oct. 9.—Capt. Rowse [Rous] arrived here [Chignictou] from Hallefax in order to hurry ye Fleet with ye Prisoners from this Place."

"Oct. 11.—The Last Party of French Prisoners were sent on Board ye vessel in order to be sent out of the Province."

"Oct. 13.—Capt. Rowse [Rous] sailed this morning with ye Fleet, consisting of 10 sail under his Comand thay carryed Nine Hundred and Sixty French Prisoners with them Bound to South Carolina and George [Georgia]."

As to the Port Royal or Annapolis District, the following extract from Captain John Knox's *Historical Journal*, vol. I pp. 84 & 85, will be interesting.

"What number of fighting men they had among those families [the Acadians of Annapolis] or in any other part of the province, I never could learn for certain; but have procured a return of the men, women, and children that were shipped off to the Continent, on the breaking out of this war, with their destinations, &c. a Copy of which I shall here present the reader. I also obtained the names of the fugitives or those who had retired; but I decline inserting them, as they are of no consequence."

"A list of the ships, tonnage, and the number of days for which they were victualled, with the number of French inhabitants of both sexes, that were taken from hence [Annapolis], and their destinations."

	Ships Names and Destinations.	Number of Days Victualled.	Tons.	Men.	Women.	Sons.	Daughters.	Total.	
(Ship)	The Helena, for Boston	28	166	52	52	108	111	323	St. Christo- pher.
(Snow)	The Edward, for Connecticut....	28	139	41	42	86	109	278	
(Snow)	The two Sisters, for Ditto	28	140	42	40	95	103	280	
(Brigge)	The Experiment, for New York....	28	136	40	45	56	59	200	
(Snow)	The Pembroke (a) for North Carolina.....	42	139	33	37	70	92	232	
(Ship)	The Hopson, for South Carolina ..	42	177	42	46	120	134	342	
	A Schooner, for Ditto	42	30	1	1	4	3	9	
	Vessels, seven.....	238	927	251	263	539	611	1664	

"I am informed, that several of these unhappy people died on their passage; that many of them are suspected to have found means to escape [only those on board the Pembroke], and now live with the remaining fugitives [48 families] in the mountains."

I am not aware that the King's instructions to Governor Cornwallis, in 1749, and Governor Hopson in 1752, relating to the Acadians were ever quoted by previous historians.

From a copy of Cornwallis' instructions, lately received from London, I make the extracts to be found as Appendix C.

Number 49 and 50 of these instructions throw a new light on the Acadian question.

The instructions to Hopson are identical with those given to Cornwallis, except in their arrangement, part of no. 43 of Cornwallis, being 69 in Hopson, which is omitted after the words: "the french inhabitants as shall not have complied therewith by the time therein prefixed." Many persons are under the impression that the Acadians were required to take the oath of Allegiance, Supremacy, and Abjuration, and were expelled for refusing to subscribe thereto. This is not the case, as will be shown by the following extract from the minutes of Council.

"On Board the Beaufort Transport,

(a) This ship was taken by a privateer in her passage, and carried into St. John's river; the passengers are returned to their district.