

the western boundary of the province formed by the St. Croix and the north line from its source was fixed, at least in theory, in this period, and the present boundaries of some of the parishes mentioned above were determined in whole or in part when they were established as townships in this period. I cannot trace any custom, sport, words in our language, or other inheritances from this period.

The next and by far the most important period of New Brunswick history is the **LOYALIST PERIOD**. The story of the Loyalists has been told so well by Sir John Bourinot in his well-known book, as well as in brief in this series,¹ that it is needless to repeat it here. But everybody should know that the American revolution was due to the short-sighted obstinacy of King George the Third and some of his ministers. The Loyalists were those Americans who, while uniting with all their fellow-countrymen in condemning the oppression of Americans by the king, differed from them in their views as to the proper method of obtaining redress for their wrongs, holding that constitutional agitation and not armed revolt was the proper remedy. But when the force-party had succeeded in sustaining their views by appeal to arms, they stained their great victory by intolerance and oppression of their more conservative, but no less loyal, fellow-countrymen, and these had to flee to new homes. These were the Loyalists, the real founders of New Brunswick, her Pilgrim Fathers, her priceless accession. The Loyalists were a part of the flower of the American population and were on the average better educated, more regardful of law and order, and more valuable citizens than the people they left behind in the new states. From twelve to fifteen thousand of them came to New Brunswick, and it is safe to say that one-half of our population, including most of the best parts of it is descended from them. To this period we owe nearly everything that is best in New Brunswick to-day—the foundation of the province, its first division into counties and parishes, our laws, language, customs. In fact we owe to it so much that it is easier to describe our indebtedness by a process of exclusion,—by describing what we owe to other periods and attributing all else to this.

Following the Loyalist Period is another which may be called the **POST-LOYALIST**, extending to the present. In this Period there has been considerable immigration from England, Scotland and Ireland;

¹Number 1.