

1746.\* During the winter months the people were kept actively employed in cutting pickets for fences and wood for fuel, and for erecting new buildings. Mechanics' were placed at the head of working parties to direct their labours, and by a judicious division of the people into small parties the more laborious portion of the work was executed with uncommon despatch; mills were also erected at the expense of Government for sawing lumber, and a mill master appointed with a salary, and every facility held out to enable those settlers, who had not yet been accommodated, to complete their dwellings on the approach of spring. The following extracts of a letter, dated 25th July, 1749, written by a settler,† affords several interesting facts relative to the state of the settlement at this time:—"On our arrival we found the Sphinx, of 20 guns, which had come into harbor a few days before us; as I write the Transports are entering the

\*The remnant of this formidable fleet put into Chabecto Harbor in distress in 1746; the troops were encamped on the western side of the Basin, near the small Cove about 4 miles from town, which still bears the name of the French Landing. The Duke himself died of grief, at the failure of the expedition, and the Vice Admiral Destourville, ran himself through the body, and was buried on George's Island; his remains, or what was supposed to have been, were afterwards removed to France by his family. Several of the ships of war were sunk on the eastern side of the Basin. The hulls of these vessels were visible in calm weather about 40 years ago, but they have long since disappeared.

†This letter appeared in one of the British Periodicals for October, 1749.