

Colchester have sixty-nine and forty-three respectively. Digby has now 8,065, and Yarmouth has 7,160. Shelburne is the only county which does not report a Frenchman; Lunenburg has but one, and Queens two.

The largest and one of the most interesting of the Acadian settlements is on St. Mary's Bay, extending along from within a few miles of its head to where its waters are lost in the ocean, in all a distance of about thirty miles. It is a unique village, stretched out so many miles along the sea, and following the indentations and projections of the shore. There is only one street, the back lands affording homes to but few. The French, since the expulsion, have never been drawn to the interior of the province, and all their villages are near the coast. When they returned, after their wanderings, they moored their crafts in the friendly coves where they could, unseen, watch the movements of the British ships, if any chanced to be about.

The whole settlement on St. Mary's Bay is called Clare, though the various sections of it are known by different names. This is the best known of all the places where Acadians now dwell. It is the largest, and in many ways the most interesting of the villages. The country itself is remarkably picturesque and easy of access. Second in size to this village, or, rather, series of villages, is the one along the Atlantic coast in Yarmouth County. This will probably become better known in the next few years, as the country has recently been opened up by a railroad. The villages here are about equal in advancement to those of Digby, with perhaps more poverty in places than can be found even in the backland portions of Clare.

The French settlement in Antigonish is a peculiar one. It is more isolated than the others. The people are poor and they seldom go away from home. They live on year after year, never dreaming that the world holds things they know not of. Tracadie is a barren land, and the winds from the Strait of Northumberland unfriendly.

Cape Breton is divided to-day between French and Scotch; and the former, in all their primitiveness, may be found there. The French in Cape Breton, of course, were never driven from their lands; as the island was French territory in 1755, when "the once prosperous Acadian peasants" were ejected from the peninsula. One must always bear this distinction in mind when considering the French population in the two divisions of the province. In the one we have new settlements, effected after the return of the exiles; in the other we have a people who have lived on practically undisturbed for nearly