

and horned cattle that, deserted by their owners, had perished in winter for want of food." They came across a few straggling families of Acadians who "had eaten no bread for years, and had subsisted on vegetables, fish, and the more hardy part of the cattle that had survived the severity of the first winter of their abandonment." They saw everywhere "ruins of the houses that had been burned by the Provincials, small gardens encircled by cherry trees and currant bushes, and clumps of apple trees." In all parts of the country where the new colonists established themselves, the Indians were unfriendly for years, and it was necessary to erect stockaded houses for the protection of the settlements. A number of the New England people also established themselves at the mouth of the Oromocto, where they had a settlement called Maudgerville, and on other places on the St. John River. The peopled district of the St. John River became subsequently known as Sunbury County, and obtained a representation in the Nova Scotia Legislature. The town of Sackville had a similar origin, and had also a member in the same assembly. No better class could have been probably selected to settle Nova Scotia than these American immigrants. The majority were Puritans who came over to New England from 1629-1640, and some were actually descended from men and women who landed from the Mayflower in 1620. The county of Yarmouth has always illustrated the thrift and enterprise which were the natural heritage of the founders of New England. Governor Lawrence recognized the necessity of having a sturdy class of settlers, accustomed to the climatic conditions and to agricultural labor in America, and it was through his strenuous efforts that these immigrants were brought into the province. They had indeed the choice of the best land of the province, and everything was made as pleasant as possible for them by a paternal government only anxious to establish British authority on a sound basis of industrial development. Some of these people, however, were not animated by those sentiments of burning loyalty which distinguished that large body of persons who suffered so deeply during the War of Independence, and sought refuge in Acadia and Canada rather than swerve from their allegiance to England. During the war some of these inhabitants notoriously sympathized with their rebellious countrymen, and at one time it was necessary to take stringent measures to awe the rebellious element in Cumberland. The people of Truro, Onslow and Londonderry refused to take the oath of allegiance, and were for a time not allowed to be represented in the Assembly. In other places a few desired to be neutral during the revolution, but the government very properly would not permit it. Some overt acts of treason were committed, but the authorities had always full knowledge of the suspected persons who were inclined to betray the government that had treated them with so much consideration from the moment they came into the country.