

parallel which forms, though not for this reason, a part of the present northern boundary of New Brunswick), granted him a part of their lands in the region disputed with the French, namely Acadia, which, since 1603, the latter had claimed under rights from the voyage of Verrazano. This grant, forming New Scotland, was separated from New England by the St. Croix, and was bounded elsewhere by the ocean, thus possessing recognizable natural boundaries instead of the invisible parallels by which all the other earlier countries had been limited.

The country was, then, to be called *New Scotland*; and so it was upon all maps, except a few published in Latin, until after the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713. That treaty was drawn up in Latin, French and English, and the Latin version uses, of course, the Latin form *Nova Scotia*, precisely as had the original Latin charter of 1621, while the English and French versions also adopt the Latin instead of the English form, primarily no doubt for convenience. But its use in this treaty would not have displaced the English form *New Scotland* by the Latin form *Nova Scotia* for all succeeding times, had it not been that immediately after it was signed a dispute arose between England and France as to the bounds of Acadia or Nova Scotia, a dispute which continued with great vigor until 1755, and which caused the treaty to be discussed and quoted constantly, and maps to be made to illustrate it. As these discussions frequently cited the treaty, they naturally adopted its form of *Nova Scotia*; and it is, I believe, beyond question that we owe the present use of the Latin form of the name to those boundary disputes, without which the country would to-day be known to us as *New Scotland*.

THE GENESIS OF ACADIA.

The discussion of the name *Nova Scotia* suggests that older and closely interrelated name, Acadia. And if my readers were asked to explain the origin of Acadia, they would probably all agree that it is derived from the Micmac termination *acadie*, signifying "place of occurrence" of something. But they would be, I believe, totally wrong. This is not the place to give all the evidence in detail; but I shall simply point out a few facts. The supposed origin of Acadia (or Acadie) from *acadie*, rests entirely upon a coincidence; *acadie* does occur many times as a termination of Indian words in Acadia; and the name *Acadie*, or Acadia, was applied to the whole country; therefore it has been in-

ferred that they are the same word. Although many distinguished writers have held this view, there is not the slightest historic evidence in maps, books or documents to sustain it. On the contrary, its not the slightest historic evidence, in maps, books to a very different origin. We can trace it back through many writers to Champlain; who, in his work of 1613, spells it sometimes *Acadie*, and sometimes *Arcadie*. But in his work of 1603 he invariably spells it *Arcadie*. On the numerous maps of the preceding century, which mark it precisely in the proper place, it is called always *Larcadie*, or *Larcadia*, and finally on a map by one Gastaldi in 1548, it appears for the first time in the form *Larcadia*, amidst a series of other names, every one of which is of European, and not one of which is of native origin. This fact, combined with the presence of the *L* (which of course does not belong to the termination *acadie*), and the presence of the *r*, which does not occur in the primitive Micmac, shows that Acadia is not of Indian, but of European origin, though of meaning unknown. I believe that further investigation will yet show the real origin of this historic and beautiful place-name.

ALMESTON.

This name few of my readers have ever heard of, yet it was once of some importance. It was the name of an old Nova Scotian township, established in 1765, covering a large area east of the St. John, in Kings and Queens Counties, New Brunswick, and later called Amesbury. The origin of the name has hitherto been unknown. It first appears in an advertisement in the *Nova Scotia Gazette* of March 31, 1768, in the form *Olmaston*, as a township on the east side of the St. John, thirty miles from Fort Frederick. In making some investigation into the family history of Montagu Wilmot, Governor of Nova Scotia in 1765, I found in a work on the Baronage of England that he was the nephew of Sir Robert Wilmot. Now Sir Robert Wilmot, in 1764, had been granted Long Island, in Queen's County, and in 1765 a piece of land on the mainland east of it, a place marked on a contemporary map as "Governor Wilmot's Farm," and both of these places fell within the limits of the township of Olmaston. Looking for further information about Sir Robert, I found that his ancestral home was at *Osmaston*, in Derbyshire, England. The history of Almeston then seems clear. This great township was named Osmaston in honor of Sir Robert Wilmot, who already owned land within