

On the 3rd May, 1715, Governor Caulfield wrote to the Secretary of State that the French inhabitants had refused to take the oaths or to quit the colony.

In 1717, the Acadians were again called upon to swear allegiance, when they replied: "Unless we are protected from the savages, we cannot take the oath demanded of us, without exposing ourselves to have our throats cut."

In 1719, Governor Philips complained to the Board of Trade that Pères Vincent and Félix had assumed the functions of Governors at Minas and Chignecto, and were inciting the French and Indians against the English; and he further reported to Lord Carteret that there were on the Isthmus four colonies of about 500 families, besides a settlement of 100 families at Annapolis, who, finding their new masters in no condition to oblige them to the observance of the treaty, remained on their possessions in defiance of the Government, *and only waited a rupture between England and France to re-establish the former Government*, there being only two hundred men in the fort to restrain them.

In 1720, Lieut.-Governor Major Lawrence called on the Acadians to send six deputies to confer with him, and also again summoned them to take the oath of allegiance; but, instead of complying, they addressed the following letter to M. St. Ovide, Governor of Cape Breton:—

"May 6th, 1720.

"We take the liberty of writing to you, sir, by the Revd. P. Justinian, in order to present to you our very humble respects. We have up to the present moment preserved the purest sentiments of fidelity to our invincible monarch. The time has arrived when we need his royal protection and assistance, which you, sir, may give us on this occasion. The English general whom we have expected for a long time has arrived, provided, as he has informed us, with full authority from his prince to compel us to take the oath of allegiance,

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