

a Frenchman from Old France named Saint Jean, and his half Indian son Jean Baptiste, both of them married to Indian wives. Smethurst says that Saint Jean had been living here near fifty years; but he probably means simply in this country, for a manuscript description of Caraquet by Sieur L' Hermitte in 1724 (his map is given on another page) implies there were then no European residents here, though he mentions a French trader living at Miramichi who was very probably Saint Jean. Descendants of Saint Jean through his daughter still live in Caraquet, as will be noted below, but his name has vanished from the settlement. Happily the site of Saint Jean's residence has been preserved for us by tradition; it was on the eastern side of Ruisseau Isabel, which was formerly called after him (and the name should be restored) Ruisseau Saint Jean. This place seems to have been an early centre of settlement of some importance, for an ancient burial ground is known on the western side, as marked on the map. Some fifty years ago the bodies, which included those of some Indians wrapped in birch bark, and of Europeans, including a person of distinction with whom a large gold crucifix had been buried, were removed to the burial ground near the church.

The next residents of Caraquet apparently came there in the sad days which fell to the Acadians between 1750 and 1760. It is not necessary to repeat here the well-known story of the Acadian expulsion, but it does perhaps need emphasis that the expulsion was not an act of deliberate cruelty practised by the English against the Franch, but a war measure which the English thought necessary for their own safety, and which was cruel because all war is cruel. Soon after 1750 Acadians were leaving Nova Scotia for Quebec, and perhaps some of them settled at Caraquet. It is reasonably certain that soon after the expulsion