

The general of Canada since the conclusion of the late peace, by letters to the president of Nova Scotia, and to the governor of New-England, claims the greatest part of Nova Scotia or L'Accadie: the French Coureurs des Bois and their Indians, 1749, have made some small appearances to intimidate our new settlers. 1. A number of French and Indians came before our block-house at Minas without effect; they surprize and carry off about eighteen stragglers as captives. 2. In September, eight Indians as traders came aboard Donnel a trading sloop in Chicaneeto bay, by surprize with their long knives they kill three of his men, while several Indians on shore waited the event; in this scuffle, the Indians lost seven of their men. 3. Beginning of October, a company of about forty Indians, as was supposed, surprized eight of Gilman's timber-men near the saw-mills, east side of Chebucta bay; they killed four of Gilman's men, three escaped to the flanker of the block-house, one man is missing, supposed to be captivated to make discoveries; the Indians did not attempt the block-house:—Afterwards there was a more general rendezvous of Indians, but having no prospect of any advantage, and the St. John's Indians differing with the Mikmaks, they broke up and went home.

The chief settlement will be the town of [k] Halifax or Chebucta, laid out and settled in a few months; [l] for defence round it at proper distances are five picquetted block-houses containing barracks for Warburton's regiment.

(12 miles from Savannah) were only one master, two women, four men-servants labourers, and eighteen children, whereof two paid for their board; in his vagrancies this was his great cant fund to beg money and other effects from weak christians. Here I inadvertently anticipate what properly belongs to the section of Georgia.

[k] So called from the earl of Halifax, the principal encourager of this settlement.

[l] Idleness and intemperance, the bane of all our plantations, especially considering the nature of the first settlers of this place, are more dangerous than any parcels of despicable straggling Indians.