

the position if the man to whom he was bound would release him. His friend told him he would arrange that matter for him. He found his new position very congenial, and remained in it about two years.

In 1768, Joseph Dugas, an Acadian exile of 1755, then of Annapolis, accepted a grant of land on St Mary's Bay, at a place now called Major Doucet's Point. The year following, and for a number of years after this, other exiles at Annapolis, and from New Brunswick and the United States, returned to their native land and joined Joseph Dugas in his enterprise of subduing the wilderness. The settlement increased in this place, as also at Eel River and other points in Yarmouth county. A church had been built at Eel River and another one near where Joseph Dugas first settled. These people had been visited occasionally by travelling priests; but they had not enjoyed a stated ministry. The priests who visited them were from either Quebec, or Halifax. Among them was Abbé Bailly, of Quebec. Another was Father Jones, resident at Halifax at that time. Deeply feeling the need of a resident priest, the people of St. Mary's Bay, in the closing year of the century, petitioned Sir John Wentworth, then governor of Nova Scotia, to secure for them a priest of their own race and language. This petition was signed by a large number of the people.

I saw the original of it. It is signed by Amable Doucett, Lanone and others. This was forwarded to the under Secretary of State at London. About that time M. de la Marche had been chosen by the British government to distribute help among the exiled priests in London. He was directed by the secretary of state to select a suitable priest for the petitioners. He chose Abbé Sigogne. The abbé deliberated and decided to accept the position. His salary pledged him by the people was to be one hundred pounds a year, Nova Scotia currency. His friend, the nobleman, undertook to dissuade him from giving up a position from which, taking into account the salary paid at that time, he received good remuneration, for one that would give him less than one third of what he was getting; and added to this his life would be in the wilderness of Nova Scotia, cold and dreary, even in summer, as it was represented by the nobleman; and terribly cold in winter. But nothing could turn the abbé from his undertaking. He had decided to look after the sheep in the wilderness.