

south side of the river St. John, two or three miles below the mouth of the Madawaska. They were the first French residents there. Two or three years later, about 1786, the Acadians near Fredericton, having been disturbed by the introduction of the Loyalist refugees, went up the river, and twenty or more families settled just below Duperré. About 1790, another body of French, formerly settled on the Kennebecasis, came to Madawaska. Both these little colonies received grants from the government of New Brunswick. Later, there came single families. Mr. Deane's account is not far astray.

In connection with the establishment of the settlement, there is some further information in a letter addressed to George Sproule, Surveyor General, by Hon. Jonathan Odell, under date July 14, 1787. Mr. Odell mentions the settlement at Madawaska as in a state of formation and including a number of people from the vicinity of Fredericton and some from Canada. He says: "They have in general terms been directed to settle themselves so as not to inconvenience one another, and in particular so as not to interfere with improvements made prior to their respective settlements. A licence of occupation was given to a number of these people, whose beginning of cultivation and allotment were reported by Lewis Mercure—and these had a promise of a grant as soon as a regular survey could be obtained of the lands—at the same time I apprehend that those who have made, or are making, settlements in that district, though not named in the Licence of Occupation, are not the less entitled to the protection of the government."

There seems to have been some inexcusable delay in making a survey of the lands, and it was not until October 1, 1790, that the grant was issued.¹ The plan of survey in the Crown Land Office at Fredericton was made by Hon. George Sproule and on it he has written: "The tracts represented on this plan being subdivided into lots by the settlers, and considerably improved before an actual survey was made, the irregularities of the measurements of the fronts of the lots could not be altered without great injury to the settlement." In this grant there are 16,000 acres and about fifty-two grantees. The grant began just below the Indian reserve, at the mouth of the River

¹ A grant was made of 213 acres to Pierre Duperré on the 11th June, 1790. This land lay on the south side of the St. John, opposite the lower end of the island below the mouth of the Madawaska.