

fenced fields. Round L'anse aux morts, La petite Ascension, and La riviere des Blancs on the right bank, and L'anse aux Perogues—L'Isle aux foins and la Riviere de Brouillon on the left, and along the courses of little streamlets on both sides of the river, were seen the settlements of some newly arrived Acadians.* About two leagues up the river L'isle aux chevres—McNally's Island—was passed, and on either side extensive flats began to spread out, covered with a species of herbage, which though salt, and coarse, is yet, observes Franquet, tender and wholesome food for cattle.

The winding channel was at intervals marked with buoys, but even with these aids Franquet recommends to those who would sail up the North East River in a vessel of forty or fifty tons, to carry an experienced pilot. When opposite Bel-air, now Scotch Fort, the boat's head was turned towards the right bank. The tide was rapidly ebbing, and a dread of drifting on shallows, accompanied with the prospect of securing quarters for the night in the houses of the settlers that rose on the slope above the river, brought about this early halt in the journey. With much difficulty the land was reached, the barge having to pass through a deep trench which had been cut in the slimy mud. The house which they had seen on the upland belonged to a settler named *Sieur Gauthier*. He was an Acadian, as was also his nearest neighbour, *Sieur Bugeau*. Each occupied a farm of a hundred and sixty acres, and had been settled there for eighteen months. The thick woods which had originally covered their lands, had been partially destroyed by fire, and the labour of clearing thus rendered lighter. The travellers received a cordial welcome from these warm-hearted Acadians, and in the evening Franquet walked round *Gauthier's* fields, with a view to ascertain for himself the quality of the crops. He saw there fields bearing wheat, peas, oats, and many kinds of vegetables, with such promise of a plentiful yield, as he had not seen surpassed even in the most favoured districts of France; and these fields, as *Gauthier* told him, had been prepared for cropping only in the month of March.

*So far as I can make out, the places mentioned in the text correspond with what we now call—Spring Garden Creek—Wright's Creek and Marshfield Creek on the right bank of the river, and Stewart Cove, Fullerton's Marsh and Johnston's River on the left.