

upon which to found sure and solid evidence, though the integrity of his mind frequently led him to just conclusions where there were missing links in the chain of circumstances and facts.

It is the office of the historian to present truth as the fruit of the fullest and most impartial investigation. He should hold no brief for any party, political or religious, nor any personage, whether king, governor, or the meanest subaltern. He is a judge sifting the evidence submitted, and his purpose is to present to the jury of mankind facts, not fiction dressed up in the specious garb of glowing periods of tropical rhetoric.

The historical facts in connection with the deportation of the Acadians, in 1755, reach back to the treaty of Utrecht, in 1713, which transferred them as subjects of Louis XIV, of France, to Queen Ann, of England. The character and behavior of the Acadians during these forty-two years must stand, in some measure, as the justification or condemnation of this unwonted deed. It will not do to quote the intrigues of Abbé Le Loutre, nor his over zealous efforts to persuade his countrymen to forsake the English lands for the territory of New France.

This question is one of fact—as to whether the Acadians were true to their oath of allegiance in its restricted form, whether the English failed to comply with the fourteenth article in the treaty of Utrecht, and whether the deportation was not planned and carried out for the purpose of enriching Governor Lawrence and his immediate friends with the property which the Acadians were forced to leave behind.

Mr. Richard, in his excellent work, acknowledges his indebtedness to a history of Nova Scotia, in manuscript, which was prepared by the Rev. Andrew Brown, of Halifax, between the years 1787 and 1795. Mr. Brown, who was a