

To Jean Baptiste Cyr was given the surname or soubriquet of Crock,<sup>1</sup> and his home is believed to have been at or near Crock's Point, above Fredericton. The name of Croc persisted in the Cyr family for some years but has since disappeared..

Governor Carleton seems to have been anxious to keep the Acadians under his jurisdiction and they seem to have reciprocated his desire.<sup>2</sup>

At this time Madawaska was almost an unbroken wilderness, but was known to be a promising location. When one compares the flourishing state of Madawaska to-day and the progress its people have accomplished and are accomplishing, with the little French village, eight miles above Fredericton, it is difficult to think that the removal of the majority of the Acadians in 1786 was other than a providential circumstance. Unfortunately the Acadians were destined to find their new territory a bone of contention between the British government and that of the United States (and as such it remained for nearly half a century); but the controversy did not interfere very greatly with their comfort or prosperity.

It is a curious circumstance that we are largely indebted to the Boundary dispute for our knowledge of the early history of Madawaska.

In the year 1831, the United States Congress sent J. G. Deane to obtain some information about the place. He tells us that he learned, on inquiry, that in the year 1782, Pierre Lizotte, then but a boy of fourteen years of age, found his way to the Indian Village at the mouth of the Madawaska river. When he returned, his report of the country induced his half-brother, Pierre Duperré, to go back with him to trade with the Indians. In 1783 or 1784, they settled on the

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<sup>1</sup> Tradition says that Jean Baptiste Cyr used to manufacture large quantities of maple sugar in the disposal of which he used smilingly to ask his French patrons: "Vont-ils en avoir de quoi *croquer*?" Little thinking that the name of Croc would stick to his family. Major Studholme's exploration committee in 1783 reported concerning Jean Baptiste Cyr that he had been settled on the river fifteen years; and during the Revolutionary war had rendered assistance to Col. Michael Franklin in restraining the savages from making war against the English. On his removal to Madawaska he was accompanied by his nine sons Jean Baptiste, François, Jacques, Antoine, Firmin, Joseph Olivier, Pierre and Paul.

<sup>2</sup> Lieut.-Governor Carleton wrote Lord Grenville, the English Secretary of State, October 9, 1790, stating that fifty Acadian families had settled about thirty miles above the Great Falls and hearing that it was proposed to place them under the jurisdiction of Quebec, had forwarded a memorial asking to be continued as a part of New Brunswick.