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THE CHARTER OF NOVA SCOTIA.—THE PURITAN SETTLERS.

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General Charles Lawrence, Governor of Nova Scotia (of which province New Brunswick then formed a part), was closeted in Halifax with a deputation from New England. The leader of the party held in his hand a proclamation, from which the following is an extract:—

“By His Excellency Charles Lawrence, Captain-General and Commander-in-Chief in and over His Majesty’s Province of Nova Scotia, or Acadia, &c., &c.

“A PROCLAMATION—Whereas by the late successes of His Majesty’s arms in the reduction of Cape Breton and its dependencies, and also by the demolition and entire destruction of the fortifications of Gaspé, Minas, and of St. Lawrence, and on the St. John’s river, the enemy who have formerly disturbed and harassed the Province of Nova Scotia, and much obstructed its progress, have been compelled to retire and take refuge in Canada—a favorable opportunity now presents itself for the peopling and cultivating as well the lands vacated by the French, as every other part of that valuable province, &c., &c.

“I shall be ready to receive proposals that may hereafter be made towards effectually settling the said vacated or any other lands within the Province aforesaid, &c., &c.

“Given in Council Chamber,
Halifax, 12th Oct. 1758,
and in the 32nd year of
His Majesty’s Reign.

A description then followed of more than 100,000 acres of intervale and plow lands, producing wheat, oats, hemp, flax, &c., which had been cultivated for a great many

years; also more than 100,000 acres of upland, all of which were situated about the Bay of Fundy, or on navigable rivers.

Mr. Hancock, of Boston, and Messrs. Delancie and Watts, at New York, were authorized to receive proposals for the settlement of the above-named lands, which proposals were to be transmitted by them to the Governor or to the President of the Council at Halifax.

In consequence of the flattering description of Gov. Lawrence, a deputation was appointed from New England to explore the country, and report. Their visit to Nova Scotia gave them full satisfaction, at least so far as the lands were concerned, and they wrote flattering accounts to the farmers and fishermen of New England, the inhabitants of which numbered upwards of half a million of people, nearly all of whom were then loyal British subjects. New England blood had been shed and New England treasure spent in order that the British flag might wave, and English civilization prevail, over New France and Acadia. The converts of Whitfield had some time before played an important part in the first capture of Louisbourg, and in recent engagements New England men had borne a large share in the successes at Point de Bute, Baie Verte, and St. John. Gen. Lawrence had complimented the New England people on account of the great service they had rendered to His Majesty,