

the early times; but among the Acadians, considering their number, these marriages have been much more frequent, and must consequently have exercised a much greater influence on the whole race."

"In the census of 1671 we find a Pierre Martin married to a squaw; and in 1686, St. Castin and one of his followers, besides Enaud, Seigneur of Nepissigny, and another Martin living at La Heve. Thus, in the census of 1671 and 1686, in a population of sixty or seventy families, we find five marriages with Indian women. *But from 1606 to 1671, when the population was recruited from adventurers, who, according to their custom, came alone, without families, when European women were not so numerous as men, what a number of such marriages must have taken place!*" "As the *original families* of Acadians were not numerous, it may be affirmed that, *in consequence of subsequent marriages, there are few Acadian families without some mixture of Indian blood in their veins.*" \*

M. Rameau is a little hard on the *original Acadian families*. He bestows on them the flattering title of *adventurers*. In another place he, with astounding condescension, declares that the first Acadians were not "a reunion of brigands," and Acadie was not "a penal colony;" and in the enumeration he makes of the first colony, after explaining how it was composed of "a singular mixture of sailors, fishermen in winter-quarters, and adventurous traders, etc., 'of freebooting habits,'" he adds that there were *even* farmers amongst them.† Thus he prepares the way for his great discovery, and tells us that at the present time "there are few Acadian families without some mixture of Indian blood in their veins."

It is evident to any one who has studied the history of the Acadian colony that M. Rameau here falls into a serious error. In the history of Acadie, which he is now writing, there is no doubt but that he will be more just. He is specially bound to correct this mistake, as everything coming from his pen concerning the history of Acadie or Canada is generally received as authoritative.

In the lines quoted above, M. Rameau evidently confounds the Basque, Normand and Breton fishermen and adventurers, who, from the commencement of the sixteenth century, before the

discovery of Canada colony, until Lato France, with the as he calls them.

Acadie conclusive "a reunion of brig nor Acadie "a p banished from the cause France refus had raised up again on their arrival in Biard and Lescarl Royal all kinds of before a grain of v that Poutrincourt joiners, carpenters, sawyers, sailors" ( not bring out farm succeeding his arr commendable in a Poutrincourt high of the land, and diffuse. Again he Croix, found wheat Monts had sowed nourished."\* Pou years before would ment of Acadie by Lescarbot writes:

trincourt took tim part, two leagues around the said F

The harvests spe of the soil: soon their grain, "beca and, on his return wheat to show the

\* Rameau, pp. 24 and 123-4.

† Ibid, pp. 20-23.

\* Lescarbot, Vol. II