

HISTORY.

New Brunswick was first discovered by Jacques Cartier, a French explorer in the year 1534, but no attempt at a settlement was made until the year 1604 when DeMonts and Champlain wintered on an island in the St. Croix River. It was for more than a century after this a French possession, being a portion of the Province of Acadia, but when Acadia passed to Great Britain under the Treaty of Utrecht, it formed a part of the English Province of Nova Scotia. During the French occupation the settlements were inconsiderable, and it had been a long time in the possession of the English before much progress was made in settling it notwithstanding the remarkable fertility of much of its soil.

The first English settlement was established on the St. John River in the year 1762 at Mougerville, and about the same time, a settlement was also founded at the mouth of the river. The people who came to New Brunswick at that time were from the colony of Massachusetts. At the close of the war of the American Revolution, large numbers of loyalists came to New Brunswick, and the City of St. John was founded. New Brunswick was separated from Nova Scotia in the year 1784, and since then has enjoyed a government of its own. After that time large numbers of immigrants came to it from the United Kingdom. Its people therefore are mainly descended from the loyalists and from immigrants from Great Britain, but there is also a considerable French population in the counties along the Gulf of St. Lawrence and in Madawaska. These people are the descendants of the ancient Acadians who were settled here two centuries and a half ago. In 1867, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Quebec and