

Scarcity." The earliest mouthpiece of these ideas is a Mrs. Williams, who in 1841 published a novel called "The Neutral French," *dealing with the expulsion of the Acadians. She drew her material from Haliburton's newly published history and her book had in turn its influence upon Longfellow's *Evangeline*. The happy state of the Acadians is like the first state of Auburn; mottoes, illustrations and ideas being borrowed from Goldsmith's famous poem. Some passages from her introduction are illuminating.

"Perhaps there is not a place on the habitable globe, where the foot of civilization ever trod, of which mankind in general have such an erroneous idea as the province of Nova Scotia, or New Scotland. Within a very few years, indeed, it has been a more fashionable trip than formerly. The few strangers who go there, however, usually go by water to Halifax, and back again, during the period of mid-summer, and generally know as much about the country after their return as before they started.

"With the exception of its inhabitants, or rather the more cultivated and intellectual part of them, who have the taste to admire the beauties of natural scenery, patience to investigate, and judgment to appreciate its internal riches and immense resources, and a few casual visitors from the mother country, and the knowledge possessed by the banished Acadian, Nova Scotia has as yet been an unknown land, a place which the ignorant of every country seem to

*The Neutral French; or The Exiles of Nova Scotia, by Mrs. Williams, Author of "Religion at Home," "Revolutionary Biography" etc., etc. Two Volumes in One. Providence. Published by the Author." (N. D.) It is dedicated to the Hon. John Fairfield. Preface, I-X; Introduction, 11-79. Vol. I. pp. 81-238; tail pieces, new title page; Vol. II, pps. 103. Appendix, Letters of Winslow, etc., pp. 105-109. Illustrations, amusements of the Acadians, from some edition of "The Deserted Village." Described from the copy in the Leblait Library, Halifax.