

Priests, either heated by their own enthusiasm, or secretly instigated by the Governors of Canada, persuaded them to credit every thing they chose to suggest against the English, whom they called heretics. This word, which has so powerful an influence on deluded minds, impelled some to secret acts of violence, and determined others to quit their habitations, and remove to Canada, where they were offered lands. The constant state of irritation in which they kept the Indians, and the extreme aversion which they manifested to the English, induced the British government to adopt the severe resolution of sending them out of the country* under a pretext of exacting a renewal of the oath, which they had taken at the time of their becoming English subjects, they assembled a number of them together at different posts, and when they had secured them, immediately embarked them on board of ships, which conveyed them to the Mississippi and Louisiana. Transporting them like convicts to a distant clime was perhaps unnecessary, and certainly injurious to these unfortunate people. Had more conciliatory measures been used, a large industrious and useful population might have been saved to the country. In 1784, the colony was divided into three governments, and all that country to the north-west of fort Cumberland, was created a distinct province, and called New Brunswick. Cape Breton was also made a separate government.

* The removal of the French Neutrals forcibly reminds us of the pathetic lament of the Mantuan Shepherd, when driven from his patrimony by the victorious soldiers of Augustus.

O Lycida, vixi pervenimus, adventu nostri
 (Quod nunquam veriti sumus) ut possessor agelli
 Diceret: Hæc mea sunt; veteres migrate coloni.
 En unquam patrios longo post tempore fines;
 Pampæis et tugurî congestum cespate culmen,
 Post aliquot mea regna videns mirabor aristus?
 Impius hæc tam culla novalia miles habebit?
 Barbarus has segetes?

Ite mæe, felix quondam pecus, ite capellæ,
 Non ego vos posthac, viridi projectus in antro,
 Damosâ pendere protul de rape videbo.
 Cârmina nulla canam.

1st & 9th Ecl. Virg.