

to seize and carry off the inhabitants, divide the real property among the people of New England while the flocks and herds (more than 200,000 head) were to be "taken for the government," but as the records in part show (records of accusation of fraud against Lawrence) went into private pockets.

Now this plot of robbery, incendiarism and murder was concocted without the knowledge of the Royal Government in London, and contrary to the commands sent by Thomas Robinson, President of the Lords of Plantations, in Aug. 13, 1755, to Halifax, enjoining the greatest circumspection in dealing with the Acadians, and warning the governor that France as well as England had guaranteed their rights as neutrals. The British home government had been deceived by the colonial officials all along, backed by the misrepresentations of the Nova England Anglo-Americans against the Acadians. It had been but recently that the British government had been informed of the designs of plunder and oppression hatched in the colonies and this letter had been sent to prevent it. But the letter did not arrive in Halifax until Oct. 1755, and then all was over! It was agreed between Winslow, of Massachusetts, and Lawrence, of Nova Scotia, that the former should send between 6000 and 7000 militia from Boston to Halifax to be distributed to various points among the unsuspecting Acadians and that transport vessels should be hired in Boston and sent to several convenient stations on the Acadian coast. All this was done, and what occurred at Grand Pré may be taken as a sample of what occurred at other parts:

Sept. 2, 1755, Winslow arrived with 300 soldiers. He issued an order to the men and boys of Grand Pré to assemble in the church on Sept. 5, to listen to a communication from the governor. When that day arrived, he surrounded the church with his soldiers; told the people that they were his prisoners; that their goods were confiscated and that ships were waiting to take them into exile. There is no need to describe the effects of this speech on an unarmed and unsuspecting population. But it is with satisfaction to note that a detachment of Anglo-Americans, with all their officers who went to Beau-ssin with their damnable scheme of robbery, were cut to pieces by the enraged inhabitants, not one escaping. Their presence near French territory where the Acadians had received arms accounts for this, because the Anglo-Americans had

taken the precaution, long before, to call in all the firearms in other districts. The Seigneur Thibaudan killed some by his resistance, and at Pubnico, after a few of the inhabitants had been seized, the others rallied and drove off their cowardly assailants.

Apart from the fear of the military prowess of the French, the great stimulant of the Anglo-Americans against Acadia had been the desire of plunder, as well as of proscription. Fennimore Cooper, in his novel "The Spy," tells of the story of his grandfather's visit to Boston at the time (1745) that Pepperrell's expedition was being fitted out against Louisbourg. His grandfather described the equipment of an Anglo-American colonel, and among the most important articles was a "plunder-sack," which contained nothing at that time but a Puritan psalm book, but which was destined to contain valuables stolen from the families of Acadia. And to-day when the visitor in Nova Scotia, from some elevated nook on the south mountain looks across the valley of Annapolis and beyond, he will see where the Yankee's plunder-sack has trailed across the "Land of Evangeline."

But the story of the d'Entremonts is the most interesting of any other Acadian family of this epoch. They were the last representatives of the great proprietors—or princes—of the country, and the only important seigneurial family that had not withdrawn from Acadia, either to France, to Louisiana, to Canada, or elsewhere. The La Tour had died out in the male line and all their immense holdings were vested in the Barons d'Entremont who were descended on both sides from two daughters of the last La Tour. Now these landed claims of the La Tours had been guaranteed both by France and England in the following manner. When Cromwell's men captured Acadia the first time, La Tour hastened to England, and urged to Cromwell that his lands were held from the Crown of Scotland, producing in evidence his and his father's patents as Barons of Nova Scotia, as they were issued by King Charles I. This evidence Cromwell acknowledged as valid and commissioned La Tour himself as one of the lords-proprietors of Nova Scotia. The French King had acknowledged the same grant previously from the lands inherited from the La Tours, the first d'Entremont, who was major of the troops in Acadia at the time had the troops in Acadia at the time, had the following baronetcy granted him in