

placed in a sore strait, for all their sentiments were wounded and traversed by this new arrangement, that did not take into consideration the feelings of a few settlers in remote districts of a far-away province. Hearts are breaking all the time; a few, more or less, are not to be considered in the deliberations of international affairs. They took the oath of allegiance with mental reservations and unexpressed wishes and resolves. Very naturally they preferred the rule of their own country to that of the English, and they just as naturally hoped for a release from this undesirable condition. That people thus situated would improve every safe opportunity to bring about what they most ardently desired is but a rational supposition. No man can serve two masters; the result of their attempt in that line is a sorrowful instance in proof of the saying.

When Annapolis was taken in 1710 Samuel Vetch became Governor, and held that office till October, 1712, when he was displaced by the connivance and influence of his old companion in arms, Col. Francis Nicholson, who was a false friend, and a most undesirable person to place in charge of affairs at Annapolis. He never made but one brief visit, and that to ruin Vetch if he could, and his term of office expired January 20, 1715, and not 1717, school historians and all others to the contrary notwithstanding. But Vetch was again commissioned Governor, and held the office without returning to Nova Scotia, till Col. Richard Phillips, son of Sir John Phillips, of Picton Castle, in North Wales, was appointed Governor of Nova Scotia and Placentia. He remained five years in this Province and returned to England, where he continued to draw his salary for twenty-seven years, and meantime the affairs of the Province were administered by a lieutenant governor and his council. The first of these officials was Captain Laurence Armstrong, who had been connected with military affairs of the Province. His term of office began in 1725 and he ended it in 1739 with his own sword in a fit of melancholy. His successor was Paul Mascarene, a picturesque figure of those days. He was a French Protestant of the Huguenot sect, whose parents had been driven out of France by the events which followed the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. His life had been spent in the English military service. He filled the new post in a very acceptable way during ten years, till the coming of Lord Cornwallis to found Halifax in 1749, and the end of all came to him in 1760.

During the years of peace between France and England, from