

NOVA SCOTIA.

NOVA SCOTIA, as appears by the Patent granted by your Majesty's Royal predecessor King James the First to Sir William Alexander (afterwards created Earl of Sterling) bearing date the 10th of September 1621, contains all the lands and Islands, lying within the promontory, commonly called Cape Sables, being in forty three degrees of North Latitude, or thereabouts, thence westerly to the Bay, commonly called St Mary's Bay, & from thence Northerly in a straight line by the mouth of that great Bay (which runs easterly up the Country, & divides the two nations called Suriquois & Etichimenes) to the river Saint Croix, thence westerly to the head of that River, thence northerly to the next bay, which discharges itself in the River St Lawrence; thence Easterly along the coast to the Bay of Gaspé, thence south-easterly to the Bacalio Islands, or Cape Breton, & leaving that Island on the right, and the Gulph of St Lawrence & Newfoundland, and the Islands thereto belonging on the left, thence to Cape Breton, in the Latitude of 45 degrees, or thereabouts, thence South west to Cape Sables again.

We have made use of this ancient Charter fixing the boundaries of Nova Scotia, because the french are daily setting up new pretensions to a very great part of this Province altho' the 12th article of the treaty concluded at Utrecht, expressly provides, that Nova Scotia shall be given up with its Ancient boundaries, & nothing is excepted out of this cession but Cape Breton, & the other Islands, lying in the mouth of the river of Saint Lawrence, & the Gulph of the same name.

The Government of this province, both Civil & Military, is entirely in your Majesty; but as there are hitherto only two or three English families settled here, besides the Garrison of Annapolis, there is very little room for the exercise of Civil Government; neither has your Majesty any revenue in this Country, the lands not being yet peopled, & granted out upon quit rents, as in the other Colonies. There are two Towns in this Province, besides Annapolis; Minas, & Sheganektoo, both settled by french inhabitants, about 2500 persons in number, who have remained there ever since the cession of this Country to Her late Majesty, but are entirely in the french interest, & by their communication & intermarriages with the neighboring Indians have gained them to their party; whereby they are enabled upon any occasion to engage the said Indians in a war against your Majesty's Subjects, & by some late accounts from Nova Scotia, there is too much reason to believe, that they do, at this present juncture, use their endeavours to instigate the said Indians against the Garrison of Annapolis, & others your Majesty's subjects fishing at Canço, & upon the Coast of Nova Scotia.

The little trade, derived in this Country at present, is entirely in the hands of these french inhabitants. It consists chiefly in fish, which is more plentiful here, than on any other coast of America; they have likewise some furs & Cattle, but whatever products or Merchandize the french inhabitants have to dispose of, is transported by them either to Cape Breton, Quebec, or directly to France, which is to the prejudice of Great Britain; for which reason, as well as many others, it is absolutely necessary for your Majesty's service, that these french inhabitants should be removed; for it is not to be expected, that they will ever become good subjects to Your Majesty, & there is all the reason in the world to apprehend, that, upon any rupture between the two Crowns, they may openly declare in favour of france.

It was provided by the Treaty of Utrecht, that the french inhabitants of Nova Scotia should have a year allowed them to remove from thence, with their effects; but they have long since lapsed that time, & such as remained beyond it were, by the said Treaty, to become subjects