

that the curious place-name *Surreau Blanc*, a word having no meaning in modern Acadian, though possibly a corruption of Ruisseau Blanc, belongs to this period. But this is all. If men lived at that time in Tracadie, they have left scarcely more trace than the clouds they saw drifting across the fair summer skies.

We approach finally the foundation of the present settlement of Tracadie. For the information which follows, I am indebted very largely to two of the most prominent residents of Tracadie, first of all to Dr. A. C. Smith, and then to Mr. John Young, M. P. P., to both of whom I desire to express my obligations for many courtesies and invaluable aid. The maps are compiled from various plans in the Crown Land Office, supplemented by some personal observations, and many notes from Dr. Smith. And I may here mention the other publications which relate to Tracadie. These include several papers, of which I have not been able to make use, by M. Placide P. Gaudet, published in local newspapers, in *Le Courrier des Provinces Maritimes*, Sep. 21, 1882, and Jan. 17, 1895, in *Le Moniteur Acadien*, April 16, 1889, and in *L'Évangéline*, Nov. 17, Dec. 1, 1892. There are some notes of value also in Cooney's *History of Northern New Brunswick*, page 176, and in Raymond's *Winslow Papers*, page 500. No doubt we shall learn much more about the French founders of Tracadie when M. Gaudet publishes his extensive and accurate investigations into Acadian genealogy and history.

As to the identity of the founders of Tracadie, the tradition among both French and English residents seems to be unanimous,—they were Acadians, followed very soon by the English. First of them all was François Robert, dit Le Breton, who with some of his sons came here prior to 1785, from Griffins Cove, Quebec. At first, however, they were not genuine settlers, but lived by hunting and fishing; and they