

"moderate size," and "that such publication be proceeded
"with without delay." This report was adopted by the house
on the 15th March, 1865.

In preparing this volume, I have selected, as the portions of
our archives which possess the greatest historical value :—the
documents relating to the Acadian French inhabitants and their
removal from Nova Scotia,—to the encroachments of the French
authorities of Canada on the territories of Nova Scotia,—to
the siege of Fort Beausejour in 1755, and the war on this
continent, which terminated in the downfall of the French
power in America,—the papers connected with the settlement
of Halifax in 1749, and the first British colonization of the
province,—and, lastly, the official correspondence preparatory
to the establishment of a Representative Government, in the
year 1758.

The expulsion of the French Acadians from Nova Scotia
is an important event in the history of British America, and
has lately derived peculiar interest from the frequent re-
ference made to it by modern writers. Although much has
been written on the subject, yet, until lately, it has under-
gone little actual investigation, and in consequence, the neces-
sity for their removal has not been clearly perceived, and the
motives which led to its enforcement have been often misun-
derstood. I have, therefore, carefully selected all documents
in possession of the government of this province that could
in any way throw light on the history and conduct of the
French inhabitants of Nova Scotia, from their first coming
under British rule, until their final removal from the country.

The exact spelling of original letters and papers has been
preserved as far as possible.

I have appended a few biographical notes which may be
found useful.

There are yet many documents of value and interest among
our archives worthy of publication.

T. B. A.

JANUARY, 1869.