

"The Acadia which was granted to De Monts in 1603 had no western boundary, but extended north and south from the 40th to the 46th degree of north latitude. It therefore included all the territory which now comprises the New England States, New York and the larger part of Pennsylvania. The French, however, never sought to enforce the extreme claim and in the first half of the seventeenth century did not seek to hold any territory farther west than Penobscot.

"But in 1697, Villebon, Governor of Acadia, informed the Governor of Massachusetts that he claimed the Kennebec to be the western boundary of Acadia and that any vessel trading east of that river would be seized. Yet very soon after the surrender of Acadia to Great Britain by the Treaty of Utrecht, the French claimed that Acadia only meant the Peninsula of Nova Scotia south of the Missequash River. The French enforced this claim at a later period by armed occupation, and, in fact, continued to control the territory now called New Brunswick until after the fall of Quebec. The Island of Cape Breton was not included in the Acadia surrendered by the Treaty of Utrecht.

"Nova Scotia, as granted to Sir William Alexander in 1621, had the St. Croix River for its western boundary and extended as far north as the St. Lawrence, so that it included not only New Brunswick and Nova Scotia but also the Gaspé Peninsula. After the capture of Port Royal in 1710, the Governor of Nova Scotia claimed jurisdiction over all the territory east of the St. Croix and this river continued to be the boundary of Nova Scotia until 1784 when the territory north of the Missequash was separated from it and became the Province of New Brunswick.

"The Island of Cape Breton at the same time had a separate Government, but this ceased in 1820 when it was united to Nova Scotia and since that time there has been no change in the boundaries of Sir William Alexander's ancient colony.

"As Nova Scotia was originally colonized by the French, then settled by a colony of Scotchmen, again occupied by the French, then held by the English during the Protectorate of Cromwell and the reign of Charles II for sixteen years—again restored to the French and finally conquered by the English and ceded to them by treaty, it follows as a matter of course that we must look to many sources for its history. It is only in recent years that any progress has been made in elucidating that part of its story which relates to the Scotch colony in Acadia, and much yet remains to be disclosed in regard to this interesting period. A great deal of what has been written in regard to that early time is little better than guess work and most writers are content to follow Charlevoix who wrote a full century after the Scotch had disappeared. Yet some members of the Scotch colony undoubtedly mingled their blood with that of the Acadians and became the founders of Acadian families which still exist in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. It is very desirable that further light should be shed on the story of the Scotch colony.

"Another period of Acadian history which is very obscure is that relating to the contest between d'Aulnay Charnisay and de la Tour. We know something about the contest between these two men but not enough to satisfy a reasonable curiosity. The slightest study of the orders of the King in regard to these rivals will serve to show that there must have been underlying causes which have not been disclosed to account for the changes of policy with regard to them. These changes can hardly be understood without a close study of the history of France between 1635 and 1650. This period included the attainment by Richelieu of the summit of his power, its partial eclipse and his death in December 1642, the death of Louis XIII a few months later, the rise of Mazarin to power and the regency of Anne of Austria. These changes of rulers involved many changes of policy and the internal peace of France was much disturbed, so that we need not be surprised at the uncertain attitude of the Government with regard to the rival chiefs of Acadia. The characters both of la Tour and his wife have been aspersed by the writings of the Menou family, but their ex parte statements are hardly to be taken seriously.

"Another period of Acadian history which is only just now becoming better known is that which relates to the connection of Sir Thomas Temple with the Province. To make this clear it has been necessary to go not only to the English state papers, the