

expansion of the families at Grande Plaine, while others were taken by Lantain, Frigot, Dugay, Mallie, and others, expanding from the rapidly-growing settlement of Caraquet, or elsewhere. Some of these however, settled elsewhere on Miscou. This settlement at Miscou Center, or as it is locally called "the road," was greatly promoted by the establishment here of a Free Grants tract about 1878 which was rapidly taken up. Miscou Center is thus a new, but is a fairly prosperous settlement, maintaining a large church with its own priest. It is, however, approaching the limit of its growth, for nearly all of the cultivable land has been taken up, here as elsewhere on the island. Indeed the lines of the grants shown on the accompanying map cover practically every acre of the arable land on the island, and even more; for those grants shown without name of grantees are not farms but blocks taken up to cover marshes producing only wild hay. All of the remainder of the island is of bog-barren, sand beach or marsh. Miscou is therefore now nearly all settled, and probably never will maintain a much larger population than the 400 or 500 residents of the present.

Such was the founding of the settlements of Miscou. The limits of my space will not allow me to attempt any sketch of its later development, which is perhaps just as well since my knowledge is limited and the matter is uneventful. The expansion of the settlements, the building of light-houses, the development of lobster-factories, the construction of churches, the improvement of communication through the building of roads and a wharf, and the proposed steamer service to Caraquet, are the chief later interests at Miscou. To this I wish I could add an improvement in education, for in this the island is sadly backward. As the settlements become older, the two races intermingle somewhat, though it is still true that the settlers of Miscou Harbor, extending to Goose Lake,