

even more tremendous volcanic action in these earliest times than when the North Mountains appeared. Vast masses of granite burst through the strata at various points from Guysboro and Halifax to Yarmouth, covering a great part of the interior of the Counties of Kings, Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth, Shelburne and Queens, and in some places running out to the coast.

AN ACADIAN MARCHIONESS.

BY JAMES HANNAY.

Not many years ago a steamboat plied on the waters of the St. John river which bore the unfamiliar name of Soulanges. Many persons wondered for whom this vessel was named, and some, no doubt, supposed that it was called after one of the counties of Quebec ; but the name had a different origin. The Soulanges was named after a man who, more than two centuries ago, was commandant, or acting governor, of Acadia, and who occupied the old fort in Carleton, which was consecrated by the heroism of Lady La Tour. Soulanges, himself, made no great figure in Acadian history, but he was the father of a woman who became a French marquise, or marchioness, and who was the wife of one governor-general of Canada and the mother of another, a distinction which no other woman born in New France has ever enjoyed. The proper name of the person, who is known in Acadian history as Soulanges, was Pierre de Joibert, and he was a native of the little town of Soulanges, in the old French province of Champagne. He was an officer in one of the French regiments stationed in Canada, and he had married Marie Françoise, one of the daughters of Chartier de Lotbiniere, who was then attorney-general of New France. Joibert, who at that time had assumed the territorial title of Soulanges and de Marson, first came to Acadia with the Chevalier de Grand-fontaine in 1670, when the Acadian forts were restored by the English to the French under the treaty of Breda. Grand-fontaine had been appointed governor of Acadia, and Soulanges was second in command. He