

hay was cut or that devoted to pasture. . . The grain produced, assuming it to have been wheat, was fully double the quantity that the little colony could use for food, and the produce of the cattle must have been much more than would be required for the support of these families. The surplus was sold to feed the little French garrison which was always stationed at Port Royal; and when Acadia passed into the hands of the English, in 1710, the custom was continued and the English garrison of Annapolis had their wants supplied by the produce of the farms in the vicinity of the fort. The Acadians of Chignecto, Mines, and their outlying settlements, found a market for their products at Boston and even at Louisbourg, which, after the loss of Acadia, became the great French stronghold of the Maritime provinces. In this way the Acadians became rich. They produced everything that was necessary to supply the wants of their families, and had a large surplus to sell, which they converted into specie and usually buried, as there were no banks in the country in which to deposit it. It is doubtful if there was anywhere at that time a peasantry in more comfortable circumstances or more affluent than the Acadians were from the time the English took possession of the country until their expulsion in 1755.

Another census of Acadia was taken in 1686, just fifteen years after the one already referred to. It then contained 855 inhabitants, of whom 592 resided at Port Royal. Two new settlements had in the meantime been founded, both of which were destined to become populous and wealthy, and to entirely overshadow the original colony at Port Royal. These were Beaubassin or Chignecto, the name then given to the territory about Sackville and Amherst, and Mines which included the region on the Basin of Minas, the place now described in the railway circulars as the Land of Evangeline. There were 95 families then residing at Port Royal, 27 more than in 1671; but the land they had under cultivation and their horned cattle had decreased. Their sheep had almost doubled, having risen from 407 to 627, and they possessed 351 swine, a species of live stock not mentioned in the census of 1671. Evidently considerable changes had taken place in their mode of living, due to causes which cannot very well be ascertained now. The settlement at Chignecto, although only a few years old, was flourishing. It had 127 inhabitants and more land under cultivation than Port Royal. Its cattle numbered 236, its sheep 111, and its swine 189. The Mines settlement had 57 inhabitants and