

is in great part due to the intrigues of a certain Gaubert, who is associated with certain republican traders (anti-monarchists) of Boston, who traffic at this time in these parts and who teach the most disloyal principles."

The neutrality of the Acadians was of great profit to the English during the war of 1744-46 between the French and English in America. Although expeditions were sent by the French governors of Canada into Nova Scotia to arouse the Acadians into hostility to the English, they preserved their neutrality faithfully. Although parties bent on war and devastation crossed their territories they remained peacefully at home. It was during this war that Louisbourg was cap-

tured by the New England forces under Pepperrell and the British fleet under Warren (1745). But it was restored again to France to the great anger of the Anglo-Americans who hated and feared the French. But the Anglo-Americans were so unreliable that although the British wished to establish colonies in Nova Scotia, they did not solicit colonists in New England, so great was their reputation for tricking and disloyalty, even in those days. A colony, however, was made up in England in 1749. All the offices, viz.: governor, commandant, mayor, aldermen, constables even, were chosen, and when Halifax was founded (such was the name of the colony) "every one was working at his appointed place 48 hours after landing."

CHAPTER V.

THE DEPORTATION OF THE ACADIANS

So soon as Halifax was fortified, Cornwallis, the new governor, issued a proclamation to the Acadians demanding the oath of allegiance to the English King within three months on pain of confiscation of goods. From that time up to 1755, the time was consumed in protests on the part of the Acadians that their country was neutral land under the English King by the Treaty of Utrecht, and that they were under protection of that treaty by the solemn engagement of England and France, but if forced to it, they would leave the country rather than alter their condition. "Leave it, then," replied the governor. But to make it impossible for them to do so and add their strength to the hostile strength of the French in Canada, he established a line of posts across the head of the isthmus and commissioned Capt. Cobb, of the navy, to cruise along the coast with this command: "Whenever the inhabitants flee, or quit their homes as you appear, seize the women and children and secure them in a fort where they are to remain as hostage until the conduct of their relatives may be better known." Besides this, agents were commissioned to take

what cattle, horses and provisions were needed for the British and not to pay for them, as the goods of the Acadians were deemed to be confiscated, held only on sufferance until the government might need them.

Hundreds of the Acadians began to leave the country, and assisted by the French officers of a little post near Beaubassin, they passed over into French territory in spite of the efforts of the English who were so enraged that, although being in time of peace, they sent a force against the little French post and captured it. The Acadians were surrounded now and cut off from their friends. But about this time (1755) the English colonial forces under Braddock were destroyed by a few hundred French on the banks of the Ohio and all the English colonies were filled with apprehension and rage thereat. This gave an excuse to the enmity of the people of New England who had looked with covetous eyes on the rich fields, beautiful farms and abundant herds of the Acadians. They began to scheme to defraud the unsuspecting Acadians for their own gain. Gov. Winslow, of Massachusetts; to Gov. Lawrence, of Nova Scotia, said that he would provide good farmers from New England for the farms of the Acadians, and these two worthies put their heads together so as