

population of 2,700 Acadians. These people were scattered along the banks of the St. Croix and Avon rivers.

Their homes extended as far as the headwaters of the Avon, along which river they erected many miles of dyke, thus obtaining large tracts of valuable marsh lands. They raised grain in abundance, and constructed grist mills in convenient places in the district. Old ruins of cellar walls, and various other indications of their homes in the localities mentioned, may be seen at the present time.

It was about February 9th, 1747, that the 600 French and Indians, having been dispatched by Ramsey, at Chignecto, to Grand Pré, to attack Colonel Noble, arrived at Pisiquid, led by Coulon de Villiers, after a long and fatiguing tramp of over one hundred and fifty miles through the woods and snow. They camped here over night, and next day went forward to Grand Pré, where they perpetrated their cowardly massacre upon Colonel Noble and his men.

In 1749 Governor Cornwallis ordered a block-house to be built at Pisiquid, which was erected in 1750.

The year 1755 was a disastrous one for the French population at Pisiquid. Colonel Winslow, commanding officer at Fort Edward, received instructions from Governor Lawrence, at Halifax, for the removal of the Acadians, who were to be placed on board ships and carried out of the country. The task of collecting these people at Pisiquid fell to the lot of Captain Murray, who did his work most thoroughly; for, about the middle of October, 1755, he had placed one thousand Acadians on board four vessels in the river, and had sailed for New England.

Many of the French Acadians fled to the woods in the vicinity of Pisiquid, and sought the protection of their friends and allies, the Indians. They took with them many head of cattle. Their strength was increased, from year to year, by numbers who found their way back to the Province from New England, and by those who had fled to the woods at Grand Pré and other places.

For several years the country was kept in a state of excite-

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