

year, but found that the settlement had declined, nine men only being left, the remainder having withdrawn to Boston. Of these nine, three were Irishmen, the remainder, with the priest and surgeon, were French, the majority who had left were Huguenots, and probably could not get along with their brethren of the old faith. This fishing hamlet did not flourish very long, as it would appear that a botanist from the Royal Gardens, who sailed from Rochelle in search of plants, arrived at Chebucton about 1699, and found the place without inhabitants, and saw the remains of their flakes, which they had used for drying their fish. Diereville goes on to say that the place was without inhabitants: "it had been made before the last war by French fishermen, who were settlers there for a company, which did not find it profitable."

He found Indians there, and entertained three of the chiefs on board his ship. They took him to see the grave of the missionary, Thury, who had recently died, and which they had covered with pebbles smoothed to a level surface.

During the war between France and against England, Holland and Russia shortly after the accession of Queen Ann, in 1702, the governor of Acadia stationed look-out parties at Chebucton that they might speak the French men-o'-war in the Spring and give them news. History is silent as to Chebucton and the Bedford Basin for upwards of twenty-one years. We know comparatively nothing about this splendid sheet of water until the unfortunate de Rochefoucauld duc d'Anville, with his scattered fleet, sought shelter and refreshments for his sick and sorely tried crews in Bedford basin. After the death of the first and second in command of the French expedition, the command devolved upon la Jonguiere, the governor of Canada, who was on board the flagship. He ordered, after the missing transports had arrived, some of the soldiers to disembark and encamp on the western side of the Basin near the Four-mile House, which still bears the name of the *French Landing*.

Before the remnant of the great French armada had departed from the Basin they burned some of the prize vessels that had been captured on the voyage out from France. The ribs and hull of one

of these vessels could still be seen about 1830, buried deeply in the sand at low tide off the shore at Millview, but not a trace of them, to the human eye, is now to be seen.

In an old map of the plan of Halifax the Basin is called Torrington Bay, probably after Admiral Torrington. It did not long retain this name, as it was shortly after named Bedford, in honor of the Duke of Bedford, who was Secretary of State when the town was founded.

Cornwallis wrote to his government as follows: "I have seen but brooks; nor have as yet found a navigable river that has been talked of. There are a few French families on each side of the river about three leagues off (Bedford). Some have been on board."

Long before Cornwallis and the first settlers came to Chebucto a road led from the head of the Basin through the forest to Pisiquid (Windsor). And as this forest road would be the natural route for the enemies of the settlement to take, in an intended attack on the new town, the Governor at once set about to secure the point by placing a company of soldiers at Bedford and erecting a palisade for defence there. On July 23rd, 1749, writing with reference to the protection of the new settlement from the French in the interior, he intimated that he intends placing a company "at the head of the Bay where the road to Minas begins."

THE ROAD AROUND THE BASIN.

In October, 1749, Cornwallis wrote that some of the French inhabitants had been employed in cutting a road from the head of the bay (Bedford) to the town. We have here the first intimation of a road on the western side of the Basin being made. The fort at Sackville was occupied by Gorham's Rangers, who were skilled in woodcraft and the ways of Indians, who patrolled the forest along the shores of the Basin for lurking foes.

The fort stood on a hill to the east of the Sackville River, and was built of wood and surrounded by a palisade.

Mr. Regina'd V. Harris, to whom the public is indebted for the facts about Sackville, says:

"The old house on the hill back of the fort has a most interesting history of its own. The frame work of this manor house is built of Norwegian