

Moses Hazen.¹ Their conduct was disapproved by General Amherst, who strongly reprobated the killing of women and helpless children. Moses Perley, the well known local historian, says that when his grandfather, Israel Perley, with others, explored the St. John river in the year 1762, they noticed "the devastated settlements of the French and the blackened fragments of their buildings which had been mercilessly burned." On their arrival at St. Anne's Point, "they found the margin of the river, along the whole of what is now the town plot of Fredericton, cleared for about ten rods back from the bank, and they saw the ruins of a very considerable settlement. The houses had been burned and the land was fast relapsing into a wilderness state."

Notwithstanding the destruction of their village, the Acadians still lingered near St. Anne's. In their distress their Indian friends came to their relief. Their existence evidently was known, for on April 15th, 1761, Lieut. Gov. Belcher reported that there were forty Acadians at the village of St. Anne's who had made no submission. In August, 1763, these Acadians petitioned the government of Nova Scotia for leave to gather their corps and remain on their locations for the winter. Five years later we find Provincial Secretary, Richard Bulkeley, directing John Anderson and Francis Peabody, Esq's, in their capacity as "justices of the peace for the County of Sunbury, River St. John," to give notice to all the Acadians there, except about six families (to be named by Father Bailly, their priest,) that they were to remove from the St. John river, and that lands would be given them elsewhere.

In spite of all difficulties and discouragements the poor Acadians clung to the lands on which they had settled. In the year 1783 Major Studholme appointed a committee of exploration, consisting of two loyalists, Ebenezer Foster and Fyler Dibblee, and two old inhabitants, James White and Gervas Say. They found no less than sixty-one families of Acadians on the river, comprising 357 persons. The committee thus refer to them in their report:

Above St. Anne's we found a considerable number of French settlers,

¹ Moses Hazen, the leader of this foray, fought against the English in the Revolutionary War. He raised a corps known as "Congress' own," or "Hazen's own." He rose to the rank of Brigadier-General in the American army and is honored by United States historians as a great patriot, but the memory of this deed tarnishes the lustre of his name. His brother, William Hazen, was loyal to Britain during the Revolutionary War.