

anniversary of the occupation of St. John by the British forces under General Robert Monckton's command. The event recalls an epoch in our history. The French regime had lasted with little interruption for a century and a half, but with the coming of Monckton and the establishment of Fort Frederick, British rule succeeded that of France. The landing of the troops on the morning of the 20th of September marks the beginning of the occupation of the valley of the River St. John by English-speaking people.

This anniversary should not be lost sight of, for the consequences of Brigadier General Monckton's expedition and the construction of Fort Frederick on the site of the old French fort in Carleton were great and far-reaching. When the British troops took possession and raised the English flag over its ruined bastions, the territory adjacent passed for the first time into undisputed possession of the English. For well-nigh fifty years this territory had been a bone of contention between the rival European powers. Indeed, it may be said that from the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713 to the capture of Quebec in 1759, the controversy between England and France, with regard to the limits of their respective jurisdiction in Acadia, had continued to disturb the peace of Europe. Attempts were made to settle the dispute by peaceful means, and for some years the points at issue were warmly debated by representatives of the two nations. The leaders on either side were Count Galissonière, governor-general of Canada, and Sir William Shirley, governor of Massachusetts. Both were resolute and determined, and, differing widely as they did in their opinions, it is little wonder that there was no solution of the difficulty. The issue was fated to be decided, not by wordy warfare at the council board, but by the stern arbitrament of the sword.

For some years the dispute as to the rightful possession of the St. John river was confined to protests on the part of each nationality against alleged encroachments on the part of its rival. The French made use of their Indian allies to repel the advance of English adventurers, and encouraged the Acadians to settle there. The English endeavored, with indifferent success, to gain over the Indians and to induce the Acadians to swear allegiance to the British crown. Galissonière contended that Acadia, as ceded to England under the Treaty of Utrecht, included merely the Nova Scotian peninsula. The St. John, he asserted, was a