

L'Escarbot, p. 545.

In 1606, Poitrin court carried l'Escarbot into North America with him.

Grant to the New
Plymouth Colony,
1606.

By these dates, we learn, that the French, from the year 1518 to 1604, had taken possession of the country, both on the River St. Lawrence, and on the River St. Croix, in the Bay of Fundy. Whereas it was only in the year 1606, that James the First made a grant to the New Plymouth Company, from the 34th to the 45th degree of north latitude, "provided "it was not occupied by any Christian Power." At this time, the French were cutting down timber, sowing grain, planting vines, &c., at various points between the Kennebec and the St. Croix Rivers.

Western boundary
of the grant of
1621, suggested by
a practical
knowledge of the
country.

We introduce these comparative dates also to show, that the French occupied the country many years before James the First made his grant, in 1621, to Sir William Alexander; and that the description of the Boundary of Nova Scotia found in that grant, is to be taken not as vague and conjectural, but is to be taken as the description of a line of boundary of which some previous knowledge existed, and most probably by means of the commerce in Peltries carried on with the Indians of the country lying between the St. Lawrence and the Bay of Fundy.

The obscurity which has been thrown in past times over the territorial extent of Acadie, that country of which De Monts received letters patent in 1603, was occasioned by not attending to the Indian origin of the name, and to the repeated transfer of the name to other parts of the country to which the first settlers afterwards removed. Even before the appointment of De la Roche in 1598, as Lieutenant-General of the country, including those parts adjacent to the Bay of Fundy, the bay into which the St. Croix empties itself, was known by the Indians of the Morriseet tribe, which still inhabits New Brunswick, by the name of Peskadumquodiah, from *Peskadum*, Fish, and *Quodiah*, the name of a fish resembling the cod.*

Origin of the word
"Acadie."

The French, according to their usual custom, abbreviated the Indian name, which we sometimes, in the old records, read *Quadiac* and "Cadie," and at length we find it taking the general designation of "Acadie."

The English race, have turned the original Indian name, into *Passam-aquoddy*, and the Indians of the district have long been by them familiarly called Quoddy Indians, as, by the French, they have been called *Les Acadiens*. To this day, the Morriseet Indians call the Bay by its original Indian name of Peskadumquodiah.

Map by Coronelli,
dated 1689.
Vide Extract
No. 3, of Map B.

But De Monts, finding the position he had selected to winter in bleak and inconvenient, and very inferior to Port Royal (now Annapolis Royal), abandoned the St. Croix, and made a permanent settlement at Port Royal. The Peninsula, south-east of the Bay of Fundy, where this Port is, began thenceforward to be called "Acadie," and so continued to be known as late as 1689; for in an ancient map by *Coronelli*, Cosmographer to the Republic of Venice, and published at Paris, we find the Peninsula called "*Acadie*," whilst the country north of the Bay of Fundy, and watered by the St. John's River, is called "*Etechemins*."† Under the French these were frequently separate Governments; but during the constant wars carried on with the English, the possessions of France, including Canada, and all the country lying eastward of the British Colonies, were frequently occupied by the English, and afterwards again restored to France; as for instance, by the Treaty of St. Germain, in 1632, when "Canada and Acadia" were restored; by the Treaty of Breda, in 1667, when France was left with all her old possessions; and by the Treaty of Ryswick, in 1697, when a general restoration was made. The consequence of these frequent mutations was, that the French possessions, east, west, and south of the St. John's, were occasionally placed under one and the same jurisdiction, which for the time went by the name of "Acadie." The confusion thus produced in the ancient maps and records, was increased by a grant from the French Crown, of the country from the southern end of the Gut of Canso to the mouth of the Saint Lawrence, under the name of "Acadie."

Treaty of St. Ger-
main, 1632.
Treaty of Breda,
1667.
Treaty of Ryswick,
1697.
Many tracts of
country receiving
the name of
"Acadie."

Treaty of Utrecht,
1713, cession of
"Acadie" to
England.

In 1702, war broke out again, subsequently to which came the Peace of Utrecht, in 1713, when France ceded to England for ever her rights to "all Acadie, according to its ancient limits." The misunderstandings which now

* The provincial name of this fish is Pollock, and it still continues to frequent that bay.

† Vide Map B, No. 3.