

abandoned their farms at Minas and Beaubassin, and removed beyond the isthmus, sent deputies to Quebec, who were "*pretty badly received by the General*;" and the Archives give a letter, of date Nov. 9, where the following passages occur:—"Your policy of threatening the English by our savages is an excellent one. They will fear them still more when they do strike. I regard these savages as the mainstay of the colony; and in order to keep alive this spirit of hatred and revenge, we must remove every occasion of allowing it to be bribed; and the present condition of Canada demands that those nations which are strongly connected should strike without delay, *provided the order shall not appear to come from me*, because I have precise instructions to remain on the defensive."

La Loutre and Daudin continued their efforts, and in 1755 the British Government determined to strike a blow which it trusted would effectually put an end to their machinations. La Loutre, accompanied by a large body of Acadians, retreated to Fort Beausejour, which was besieged by Col. Monckton, to whom it surrendered on the 16th June, La Loutre having escaped before the surrender. There were found in the Fort 150 regulars and 300 Acadians; 450 Acadians had also been stationed at a block-house on the River Malaguash.

On the surrender of Beausejour, the Governor was instructed to consult and take measures with Admirals Boscawen and Mostyn as to any further emergency, and it was resolved that the Acadians should again be called upon to take the oaths without reserve, or that effectual measures should be at once taken to remove them from the Province. It so happened that on the 9th July the British arms sustained, on the Banks of the Monongahela, the most disastrous defeat ever experienced, General Braddock having been completely routed, with terrible loss. This news was communicated to the Acadians by the Canadian emissaries, coupled with the confident announcement that the British would soon be driven from Acadia. The inhabitants were so emboldened by this, that when they were called upon to take the oath, they

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