

black hole, nearly three quarters of a mile long, called the Batignolles tunnel. The latter is as dark as Erebus itself; the engine-drivers are said to blow the whistle to give themselves courage when slowly steaming through. It was by accident that the public discovered the absence of inspection of this "funnel"; a general recently fell out of the train for Versailles during its passage through the hole. His legs were cut off, and it was only nine hours later his remains were discovered. In place of demolishing the tunnel it will be lit up by electricity, converted into a hall of dazzling light, and the reflectors will play upon advertising boards, the latest political news and the winners of races. The enterprisers might vary the list of good things by giving the "state of the crops." So much information for a funnel run of three minutes! But "time is money."

Tailors say they are starving in Paris, and too impoverished to go on strike. When an employer has need of a hand, fifteen solicit the job; work that was hitherto paid 16 frs. is now only paid 5 frs.

Some "congealed camel flesh" is being imported from Obock to test it as a new food supply for Parisians; and when hippopotamus-steaks?

OLD NEW-WORLD TALES.

THE EXPULSION OF THE ACADIANS—II.

COLONEL MASCARENE was a mildly tempered man, and one who evinced every disposition to treat the French with kindness and lenity, having a warm feeling towards them, as being himself a Frenchman by birth. We find nevertheless that, during his nine years' tenure of office as Lieut.-Governor—from 1740 to 1749—he was obliged to maintain an incessant struggle against the ever-growing encroachments of the French and their priests. These people were rapidly increasing in numbers and strength and yearly extending their occupation of lands—of lands to not one acre of which, throughout the whole Province, had they any right or title whatever. Mascarene severely felt the weakness of his position and of the force at his disposal, and sought, by close circumspection and diplomacy, to keep the French quiet and to uphold British interests as far as possible. His struggle was a difficult one. To counteract his efforts there was, on the one hand, the Bishop of Quebec, who assumed and exercised the right to send such priests as he pleased as missionaries into Nova Scotia. We have already seen what were the characters of some of his selections. On the other hand, there was the French Governor of Louisbourg, giving orders at his discretion to the only too obedient French residents of Nova Scotia. When the English Governor sought from the latter, even at high prices, supplies for the sustenance of the garrison at Annapolis Royal, or of the handful of troops maintained at Canso, all sorts of excuses were trumped up in order to evade the request. Even wood for fuel and for the repairs of buildings and works was often refused. On the other hand, their cattle were driven off by hundreds, and other provisions of their own growth bountifully supplied to feed the garrison at Louisbourg.

In the first week of July, 1744, that modern "Arch-priest," De Loutre, had so far succeeded in his machinations as to be able to present himself before Annapolis Royal with a hostile force of French Acadians and Indians under his own immediate command. The fort was in a very dilapidated—indeed, almost defenceless—condition at the time, and, for its defence, Mascarene had not a hundred men, officers included, fit for duty. De Loutre had under his command over three hundred assailants. The assailants made an ineffective attack upon the fort and were driven off. They then set fire to the lower end of the town, and, at one time, were near destroying the block-house which there occupied a small open square. They were, however, finally repulsed. The opportune arrival of a galley from Boston, with some seventy auxiliaries for the little garrison, caused De Loutre and his Free Lances to retire some miles up the river, after having stolen some sheep and cattle.

Mascarene was very soon to be again called upon to defend his post. War between England and France having been formally declared, M. Du Quesnel, Governor of Louisbourg, took the earliest possible steps to act on the offensive. He fitted out a force of French troops, Indians and Acadians, amounting to over seven hundred in all, under the command of Captain Du Vivier. By way of Bay Vert and Chignecto (Cumberland), this force reached Minas near the close of August. Here Du Vivier assumed command of the Acadians as of French subjects, gave them orders to furnish him with provisions, horse-teams and drivers; and, with this additional outfit, he proceeded overland and appeared before Annapolis Royal early in September. Mascarene had received some reinforcements from Boston since De Loutre's attack, but his garrison was still far inferior to the force of the enemy. After vainly demanding the surrender of the fort and declaring that he was in immediate expectation of the arrival of a formidable naval force to co-operate with him, Du Vivier commenced a series of very irritating, petty attacks, both by day and night. This mode of attack, keeping the whole garrison in alarm all night, was very harassing to the besieged. Renewed demands for surrender were made. Mascarene temporized, declined to surrender, and the daily and nightly attacks were resumed. After some three weeks of this and the arrival of two vessels from Boston with a company of Rangers, Du Vivier got discouraged and decamped for Minas. A few days afterwards two French

war-ships appeared in the port and seized two of the New England transports; but, finding that the land forces with which they were to have co-operated were not to be seen, they, too, took an early departure. After the failure of this attempt of Du Vivier's, the Acadian French, from various quarters, came in very obsequiously and made their most humble submission to the British Governor.

The New England Provinces, having resolved upon the extermination of the French hornet's nest at Louisbourg, fitted out an expedition in the spring of 1745 to seize that place. To the surprise of the whole world—probably themselves included—they achieved a complete success. France resolved upon a still heavier counter-blow, and, in the following year, sent forth under the Duke D'Auville the most powerful armament that had ever yet sailed from France, to retake Isle Royale, beloved Acadie, and perhaps deal a terrible blow at New England itself. Chebucto was to be the place of rendezvous. This expedition met with nothing but disaster. The greater part of the armament was lost at sea in a succession of terrific tempests. A few ships, sorely damaged, made their way to Chebucto. Here a virulent pestilence broke out amongst those who had escaped the perils of the sea. It extended to the Micmac Indians, and destroyed by far the greater portion of the whole tribe. D'Auville poisoned himself. D'Estournelle, the second in command, also died by his own hand. De la Jonquiere, the third in command, sank the greater number of his ships in Chebucto Bay, under the waters of which they remain to this day; and, with the poor residue of his forces, he returned to France without having achieved any success whatever.

The French had one little feat to boast of, in 1747. A small detachment of British troops, under command of Colonel Noble, had been placed at Grand Pre (Horton), to keep the French Acadians in order. In the winter of 1747, a French expedition was projected by De Ramezay, then at Beaubassin; and, in accordance therewith, a force, under command of Coulon de Villiers, was marched over land from Chignecto, and, with the undoubted connivance of all and the direct aid of many of the Acadian *habitans*, surprised the English post, killed the commander and a large proportion of his little force, took most of the others prisoners, and quite broke up the station. There could not be a better indication than this incident affords, of the hostility of these French Acadians towards the British. Coulon de Villiers' detachment must have necessarily been for days travelling through the settlements of these *habitans*, on their route to Grand Pre; yet there was not one of these settlers who would pass on a word of warning to Colonel Noble and his little band.

Peace between Great Britain and France was concluded at Aix-la-Chapelle on the 18th of October, 1748; and by its terms, the former, with that quite peculiar turn for adroit diplomacy for which she has always been celebrated, once more conceded back to the latter the town and fortress of Louisbourg, with the island of Cap Breton, to the intense disgust of the New Englanders, who had gallantly seized the same three years before. However, the British Government had arrived at the conclusion that Nova Scotia was not only worth keeping, but worth being improved and peopled by loyal British subjects. So, in June, 1749, Halifax was founded, on the shore of Chebucto Bay, and became thereafter the capital of the Province.

The French, always hoping to regain possession of Acadie, were astounded at this new movement on the part of the British. Under the instigation of the Abbé de Loutre and other French emissaries, every effort was made to injure and alarm the newly-arrived settlers. Parties of Indians were constantly upon the watch, in the vicinity of Halifax; and any persons who dared to go any distance beyond the stockade of the little town were almost certain to be pounced upon by Indians, killed and scalped, or taken prisoners. Deserters from the English posts were received with open arms by the *habitans*, and furnished with money and ammunition. The Indians were furnished with arms and ammunition from the same sources, in defiance of orders to the contrary.

No sooner was the settlement at Halifax commenced than an atrocious act of bad faith was perpetrated by the Governor of Canada. He despatched a military force to the isthmus of Chignecto where they threw up a formidable fort on the north side of the Missiguash River, which they called "Fort Beausejour." They also planted a redoubt on the shore of Bay Vert. With quite as much propriety, the French might have invaded and commenced to fortify the county of Kent, in England. The two nations were avowedly at peace. It had never been disputed, or questioned, that all of what is now called New Brunswick was a part of Acadie, or Nova Scotia. Yet the French now impudently assumed that all the country north of the isthmus and of the Bay of Fundy belonged to them. All that the new English Governor—Hon. Edward Cornwallis—could do, in the weakness of his position and in the multiplicity of affairs upon his hands, was to send Major Lawrence—afterwards Governor and Brigadier-General—to Chignecto, where, to keep the French in some check, he also built a fort on the south bank of the Missiguash, called Fort Lawrence.

We may here mention a tragic incident which illustrates the inhumanity of the Abbé de Loutre. Captain Edward How was, in November, 1750, the fort Major at Lawrence. This gentleman was a great favourite, both with English and French. He was conversant with the Indian languages, and had much influence over the Indians themselves, facts which doubtless made him an object of

jealousy and antipathy to the unscrupulous Abbé. Under a flag of truce, How had frequent conferences with De Loutre and the French officers, from the opposite banks of the creek, or river, Missiguash. One day, this wicked priest clothed in a French officer's regimentals, a Shuben-acadie Indian named Cope curled and powdered his hair, and tied it up in a bang according to the fashion of the period. He also lay an ambushade of Indians near the fort. Cope was sent towards it, waving a white handkerchief as a flag of truce. Captain How, taking Cope for a French officer, came out with his usual politeness, to see him. He had no sooner appeared within reach than the Indians in ambush fired at him and killed him. This is no partial English tale. It is a circumstantial account of the transaction given by a French officer, who writes as if he were an eye-witness, but expresses his horror at the murder.

The conduct of the *habitans* towards their English rulers had been, ever since 1710, so extremely suspicious—to put the very mildest construction upon it—that the new Governor came armed with authority to insist upon the Acadians becoming truly British subjects, or vacating the country. The subject came up at the very first meeting of the new Council, on board the *Beaufort* transport, on the 14th of July, 1749. Colonel Mascarene read the Oath which the French had already taken in Governor Philipps' time. A declaration was issued and sent amongst them, stating that they could continue in the free exercise of their religion, and in the peaceful possession of such lands as were under their cultivation, provided that, within three months, they took this Oath of Allegiance—already taken by many of them—as required by British laws of all British subjects; that they submit to all necessary rules and orders for maintaining and supporting His Majesty's Government; and should countenance and assist in the settlement of the Province. They were distinctly told that this was the only alternative before them. They were also emphatically assured, in this July, 1749, in reply to their own direct enquiries, that they had already been allowed nearly forty years in which to dispose of their property if they wished to leave the country; and that if they now determined upon leaving Nova Scotia without taking the Oath of Allegiance, they should leave their property behind them.

The French shuffled and prevaricated. When urged to a decision, they, through their delegates, arrogantly dictated a form of Oath, suggestive again of the lion of Bottom the weaver—an Oath hampered with such incongruous conditions that it implied no Allegiance at all. A document was handed in by them, having a thousand signatures, in which they positively declared that they would not take the Oath required by Governor Cornwallis, and that they had determined, every one of them, to leave the country. Among other strange observations in this document, we find this *naïve* but insolent statement: "What causes us all very great pain is the fact that the English wish to live amongst us!" A petition boldly remonstrating against the Oath was sent in by the inhabitants of the district of Annapolis Royal, in which they had the presumption to say that "they never considered themselves as subjects of the King of Great Britain"—whom they style in the petition "King of New England."

To all remonstrances, the pith of Governor Cornwallis' reply was that they must either take the Oath, or leave Nova Scotia before the 26th of October. They tried various evasions and excuses; they begged for more time for consideration; and they got it.

In point of fact, Governor Cornwallis was, at the time, too weak handed to enforce his demands, and that the Acadians well knew. In the meantime they were every day assuming a more daringly and openly hostile demeanour. In the autumn of 1749 an attack was made by a band of French and Indians upon the fort of Captain Handfield at Grand Pre. Eleven of the former were, by a French resident of Grand Pre, recognized and afterwards sworn to by name, as *habitans* belonging to Pezziquid (now Windsor). About the same time the Abbé de Loutre and one M. La Corne, a very zealous French partisan late from Quebec, had, without difficulty, induced the Acadians of Chignecto—one of the largest settlements in the Province—to take the Oath of Allegiance to the French king.

After the French invasion of British territory at Chignecto, and the erection there of Fort Beausejour—1750 to 1752—a number of those, and the descendants of those Acadians who had taken the Oath of Allegiance under Governor Philipps, were by De Loutre and his aides induced, partly by persuasion and partly by threats, to desert from the older settlements and plant themselves under French protection, on the north side of the Missiguash. These consisted in all of about fourteen hundred men capable of bearing arms, together with the families of many of them. These people became known, in the English descriptions of the time, as "the deserted French inhabitants." In the autumn of 1753 a number of these "deserted French" petitioned Colonel Hopson, then Governor of Nova Scotia, for permission to return to the lands formerly occupied by them. Even in this petition they had the presumption to dictate the terms upon which they would condescend to return. They laid down the form of the new Oath they deigned to take; they stipulated that they should "be exempt from taking up arms against any one whatever, whether English, French, savages, or people of any other nation; and that neither they nor any of their descendants should be taken to pilot, or go where they would not wish to go; that they and their descendants should be free to withdraw whenever