

Though threatening bergs, whose chill forms groan with hate,
 Plough through the banks they build, in fiendish sport,⁵
 Already adding friction to the weight.
 Upon our counsels in the world's great court.

Longsuffering Newfoundland the menace feels,
 And, while she plays the duteous daughter's part,
 Impatient 'neath the scourge again appeals⁶
 To Britain's shielding arm and mother-heart.

Let not Great Britain wait too long again,
 Lest stern necessity pronounce decree
 Harsh in its nature and enforced by men
 Such as depopulated Acadie.

Time gave to Britain in the days long gone
 Saint Jean, now called Prince Edward,⁷ and Royale,
 Yet left to France Saint Pierre and Miquelon;⁸
 But these have slight connection with my tale.

The wild land knew not, cared not if it knew
 That treaties had been signed and envoys sent;
 The Micmac found the seas and skies as blue,
 And all the world approved the settlement.

I

When war was over, and the world at peace,
 Strange deeds were done by bold *courcurs-des-bois*
 Beneath the dense Acadian forest shade,
 Wherever British settlers' homes were found⁹

5 The gradual building up of French supremacy, extending from Cape Ray to Cape St. John, may perhaps not inaptly be compared with the building up of the Newfoundland Banks themselves by ice-bergs from Arctic regions; and as each individual berg grides and grinds along, colliding and overturning, with crashes and groans in the chill air, so may individual instances of murder, the destruction of the red native race, which is not held to be murder,—and other crimes, be regarded as fiendish sport.

6 At time of writing Premier Bond was in England in conference with the Colonial Secretary.

7 The name was changed by Royal edict in 1799 in honor of the Duke of Kent.

8 The islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon still belong to France.

9 In the year 1745 a number of Acadian peasants were forced to take up arms against the British, while others had to furnish supplies to the garrisons. England now sent a fleet of transports laden with immigrants to build a fort in Chedabouctou.