

This obscure, halting and imperious proclamation possessed all the qualities needed to procure its desired effect; and the place named for the interview, the Church, seemed to the Acadians a guarantee of the good faith of the representatives of His Majesty to whom they had sworn fidelity.

However, the attempt was not everywhere so successful. The Acadians were not ignorant of the dispositions of the English authorities towards them; many of their priests imprisoned and banished; the threats so often ineffectually made by the governors; the presence of newly-arrived vessels and soldiers—all told of some misfortune. A great number of the inhabitants of Annapolis River, Beaubassin and Cobeguit preferred seeking safety in the woods or crossing the frontier to going to hear "the intentions" of His Majesty.

But the district of Minas (Grand Pré, Rivière aux Canards, etc.,) the richest, most populous and most important in all Acadie, against the greatest dissimulation and precaution had been used, fell into the snare.

Nothing more dolorous is narrated in history than the misfortune of this peaceful population snatched from their hearths, husbands separated from their wives, brothers from their sisters, mothers from their children, and then hurried on board different vessels and cast to the four quarters of the globe, without even the poor consolation of a long, tender last embrace, of a last adieu, without hope of looking upon loved ones again; and there is hardly anything baser than the coolness with which the snare was laid, nothing viler than the motive of the action, nothing more revolting than the details of the separation and the embarking of the proscribers. No one can read in Haliburton or Rameau the recital of this infamous deed without dropping a tear over the victims and uttering a malediction upon the executioners.

THE ERLKING.

[Translated from Goëthe's "Die Fischerin."]

WHO rides so late through the night wind wild?
It is a father with his child;
He has his boy safe in his arm,
He holds him firmly and keeps him warm.