

den to hunt, that privilege (*cette chasse*) having always been reserved to the said Indians." In consequence of this complaint, notice was printed in the *Quebec Gazette* of January 24, 1765, prohibiting all Canadians from interfering with the hunting grounds of the savages down to the Great Falls of the River St. John. This prohibition evidently was not effective, for in 1767 two well-known chiefs of the River St. John, Pierre Thomas and Ambroise St. Aubin, went to Halifax to make certain requests of the Governor of Nova Scotia. Among other things they asked that traders should not be allowed to sell ardent spirits to the Indians, and that certain of the French who hunted on their grounds might be removed. Michael Francklin, the Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, thereupon wrote to Sir Guy Carleton, the Governor of Quebec, that certain Canadians and inhabitants of Kamouraska came every spring to hunt in the River St. John to the great detriment of the Indians of that river by destroying their beaver. Francklin expressed his apprehension that the remote Madawaska region would become an asylum for the banditti of both provinces.

The impression very generally prevails that the ancestors of the present inhabitants of Madawaska, came from the neighboring province of Quebec. Many of the families who reside in Madawaska, however, claim to be of Acadian origin, and they are undoubtedly correct.

In order to have an intelligent idea of the circumstances that led to the establishment of a French colony at Madawaska in the year 1786, it will be necessary to briefly consider the state of the French on the River St. John in the pre-loyalist period.

After the sad event known as the expulsion of the Acadians, some of the fugitives that escaped the general deportation fled to the St. John River where they formed several little settlements, the most important of which perhaps was that at Grimross, near the present village of Gagetown. In 1758, General Robert Monckton with a strong party, again drove them from their homes, burned their houses and barns and compelled them to seek for situations more remote. St. Anne's Point, the site of the present city of Fredericton, seems next to have become their headquarters; but alas for them! in the month of March, 1759, the settlement at St. Anne's was ruthlessly destroyed by a party of New England Rangers under Lieutenant