

## North American Notes and Queries

Vol. I

MARCH 1901

No. 9

### THE ACADIAN ELEMENT IN THE POPULATION OF NOVA SCOTIA (1)

BY MISS ANNIE MARION MACLEAN, PH. D.



So we see that priestly power actually effected the first expulsion of the Acadians, and was the indirect, but potent cause of the final deportation (1).

Le Loutre was one of the blackest characters seen in all that trying time. He it was who led the Indians on to their horrible deeds (2). But the Acadians were not responsible for him and it seemed hard that a whole people should reap the vengeance due a cowardly priest.

Governor Philipps said : —

" It is a hard and uneasy task in my circumstances to manage a people that will neither believe nor hearken to reason (unless it comes out of the mouths of their priests) at the same time to keep up the honour and dignity of Govert,..... I cannot see any hopes or likelihood of making them English, unless it were possible to procure these priests to be recalled (who are tooth and nayle against the regent, not sticking to say so openly that Tis his day now, but will be theirs anon) and having others sent in their stead which (if anything) may contribute in a little time to make some change in their sentiment " (3).

(1) Continued from page 257.

(1) 1755.

(2) The murder of Captain Edward Howe, an English officer, is striking example. Le Loutre hated him because his kindly manner led to like him and be influenced by him. Howe was lured to a parley with the Indians and shamefully killed. Even the French officers were indignant at this outrage, and unhesitatingly charged it upon le Loutre and one said : " What is not a wicked priest capable of doing. " *Parkman, Montcalm and Wolfe*, pp., 118-119.

(3) Gov. Philipps to Sec. Craggs, May, 26, 1720. Archives of N. S. pp. 33-34