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Has been placing some new  
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is now able to do all classes  
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Storm Doors and Win-  
dows a specialty.  
Mouldings of All Kinds  
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**Meals Served**  
At all hours, including  
**Oysters, Baked Beans,**  
**Ham and Eggs,**  
And, in fact, everything that goes to make up  
a First-Class Bill of Fare.

JUST ARRIVED FOR THE CHRISTMAS TRADE:  
10 bbls. P. E. I. Oysters. 10 bbls.  
Malaga Grapes, 20 bbls. Apples, 10 bbls.  
Ontario Cider, 20 gals. Providence River  
Oysters arriving each week during the holi-  
day season.

I have in stock the best imported and domestic  
Cigars to be found in the town. Confectionery,  
Oranges, Lemons, Nuts of all kinds, Canned  
Goods, etc., constantly in stock. I defy competi-  
tion and will sell during the holidays at a sacrifice  
price. Don't forget, when you are in town, and  
give us a call and you will be sure to go home both  
pleased and satisfied.

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**F. L. ATHERTON,**  
King Street, - - Opp. People's Bank,  
**WOODSTOCK.**

**THE ENGLISH ON  
THE RIVER ST. JOHN.**

Capt. Francis Peabody and the Maugerville  
Colony.—Their Petition to the Lords of  
Trade and Plantations.—Joshua Mauger.  
The County of Sunbury Formed.

(26)

Although there was no English settlement  
on the river as far north as Woodstock prior  
to the close of the revolutionary war, the  
coming of the first English settlers is of in-  
terest to us, since many of the descendants of  
the old Maugerville colony of 1763 are now  
to be found in the up-river counties. Mr.  
James Hannay's article on the Maugerville  
settlement, just published in the collections  
of the New Brunswick historical society, deals  
quite fully with the subject, and to it the  
reader desirous of further information is re-  
ferred.

The policy of the governor and council of  
Nova Scotia at this time was to procure Eng-  
lish settlers for the lands from which the  
Acadians had been banished. Accordingly  
proclamations were circulated throughout the  
more populous centres of New England offer-  
ing considerable inducements to those who  
would settle upon the vacant lands. The St.  
John river was mentioned amongst the eligi-  
ble locations. In consequence of the inducements  
held out, a number of the officers and  
soldiers of the New England corps, who had  
served with credit against the French in the  
late war, agreed to form a settlement on the  
river St. John. For this purpose Captain  
Francis Peabody went to Halifax and obtain-  
ed an order for laying out a township on any  
part of the river St. John. This township  
was surveyed in the year 1762, and included  
the present parishes of Maugerville and Shef-  
field in the County of Sunbury. It was at  
first intended to begin the survey on the  
west side of the river so as to take in the old  
French village of St. Annes, but as the sur-  
veyors were about commencing operations on  
the bank where government house now  
stands, a formidable band of Maliseet war-  
riors bedecked with war-paint and feathers  
appeared on the scene and remonstrated so  
forcibly that the party deemed it wiser to  
make another selection, and accordingly be-  
gan their survey some miles further down the  
river and on the opposite side. The follow-  
ing year some four hundred settlers arrived  
in four vessels to effect a settlement; nearly  
all the new comers were descendants of the  
puritans and members of the Congregational  
church, and they were guaranteed their civil  
and religious privileges by the governor's  
proclamation. Israel Perley, who was by  
profession a land surveyor, had been active  
in the location of the township and was a  
leading spirit in the undertaking. The little  
colony now applied for their grant, but were  
astounded to learn that an order had been  
issued by His Majesty's government that the  
lands on the St. John river were to be re-  
served for disbanded officers and men of the  
Imperial army. They at once drew up a  
petition to the lords of trade and plantations  
setting forth the services they had rendered  
in the late war, the encouragement they had  
received for settling on the river, the great  
expense that they had incurred, and praying  
that they might receive a grant of the land  
they had settled. Fortunately for them they  
had a warm friend at court in the person of  
Joshua Mauger, agent at that time for the  
Province of Nova Scotia. This gentleman  
was an English merchant, who came out to  
Nova Scotia about 1750, and after spending  
some 10 years there, in which he was en-  
gaged in trade and commerce, returned to England,  
where soon after he obtained a seat in parlia-  
ment. The petition of the Maugerville set-  
tlers was sent under cover to Mr. Mauger,  
earnestly soliciting his influence. He worked  
energetically in their behalf and in a short  
time obtained an order that the grant should  
be issued. As a mark of their gratitude and  
esteem the settlers gave to their township  
the name of Maugerville.

The following is the minute of the King  
in Council establishing the township of  
Maugerville. It has in all probability never  
before appeared in print.  
"At the Court of St. James the 10th day  
of February 1764. Whereas the Lords Com-  
missioners for Trade and Plantation have re-  
presented to his Majesty at this Board that a

memorial has been presented to him on be-  
half of several disbanded officers of his  
Majesty's provincial forces in North America,  
setting forth that induced by several en-  
couragements they have sold their lands in  
New England and settled themselves and  
families upon the St. John River in his  
Majesty's province of Nova Scotia, at the  
distance of 200 miles from any other settle-  
ment belonging to his Majesty's subjects,  
and praying that the possessions of the lands  
upon which they have settled themselves at  
a very great expence may be confirmed to  
them by his Majesty.

The Governor of Nova Scotia is ordered to  
cause the land upon which they are settled to  
be laid out in a Township consisting of  
100,000 acres 12 miles square, one side to  
front the river. Also to reserve a site for a  
town with a sufficient number of lots with  
reservations for a church, town house, public  
quays and wharves and other public uses;  
the grants to be made in proportion to their  
ability and the number of persons in their  
families, but not to exceed 1,000 acres to one  
person.

That a competent quantity of land be allot-  
ted for the maintenance of a minister and  
school master and also one town lot to each  
of them in perpetuity."

Murdoch in his history of Nova Scotia  
briefly refers to the establishment of the  
township of Maugerville in the year 1763,  
and says that "a Mr. Peabody was the  
principal inhabitant and agent for the Eng-  
lish settlers." Mr. Hannay's researches have  
led him to express a similar opinion in these  
words "The township of Maugerville had  
been surveyed in 1762 at the instance of  
Capt. Francis Peabody. This man from his  
age and character as well as from the active  
part he took in the work of settling the River  
St. John, must be justly regarded as the  
founder of Maugerville and Gagetown, and  
the most prominent and influential person on  
the river while he lived"

Captain Francis Peabody was a native of  
Rowley, Massachusetts. He served with  
distinction in the old French war and his  
name receives honorable mention in Park-  
man's "Wolfe and Montcalm" (Vol. i. p. 428).  
His three daughters married respectively  
James White, James Simonds, and Jonathan  
Leavitt the pioneer settlers at the city of St.  
John. One of his sons Samuel was a  
magistrate for the County of Sunbury and a  
man much respected in the community. He  
was a land surveyor and farmer. Another  
son Francis Peabody went to Miramichi  
where he became a prosperous merchant.  
Two other sons Stephen and Oliver survived  
their father who died in 1773. The will of  
Capt. Francis Peabody is a quaint old docu-  
ment showing that he possessed considerable  
property for those days. In it he makes  
special provision for all the members of his  
family leaving his sword to his eldest son  
Samuel. The youngest son Oliver was the  
ancestor of the Peabodys of Woodstock.

British jurisdiction on the River St. John  
assumed a more regular form in the year  
1765 when the country bordering on the river  
with the settlements of Passamaquoddy were  
included in the newly formed County of Sun-  
bury with resident magistrates and other  
county officers and two representatives in the  
legislature of Nova Scotia.

James White was appointed Sheriff,  
Francis Peabody Collector of Customs, Ben-  
jamin Atherton Registrar of deeds and wills,  
James Simonds Judge of Probates. These  
officers were probably appointed about the  
11th of August 1766 which was the date on  
which the first commission of the peace for  
the County of Sunbury was issued. The  
magistrates appointed under the commission  
were Wm. Nesbitt, Francis Peabody,  
Beamsley Glazier, Chas. Morris jr., John  
Anderson and James Simonds. Of these  
two at least Nesbitt and Morris were resi-  
dents of Halifax but their official position  
may perhaps account for their being qualified  
as magistrates of Sunbury. Wm. Nesbitt  
was Attorney General of the province and  
speaker of the House of Assembly, and  
Charles Morris jr., was Surveyor General of  
the province in which capacity he frequently  
visited the river St. John and indeed at one  
represented the county in the House of  
Assembly. He owned a large tract of land  
opposite Upper Gagetown which he called  
Morrissania.

The first election writ for the County of  
Sunbury bears date February 2nd 1765 when  
Capt. Beamsley Perkins Glazier and Capt.  
Thomas Falconer were duly elected. Both  
these gentlemen were army officers and large

land owners on the river St. John. They  
were active agents of a company organized to  
settle certain townships on the river granted  
about this time by the government of Nova  
Scotia.

The old Sunbury magistrates soon found  
opportunity to exercise their authority and  
the record of their transactions is yet extant.  
On the 20th August, 1768, the provincial  
secretary wrote from Halifax as follows:

"To John Anderson and Francis Peabody,  
esquires, justices of the peace for the County  
of Sunbury, River St. John:—Gentlemen,  
the lieutenant governor desires that you will give  
notice to all Acadians except about six  
families whom Mr. Bailly (the priest) shall  
name, to remove themselves from St. John's  
river, it not being the intention of the gov-  
ernment that they should settle there, but to  
acquaint them that on their application here  
they shall have lands in other parts of the  
province.

In July, 1769 the Rev. Thomas Wood, the  
Church of England missionary to the Mic-  
macs in Nova Scotia, visited the Indian vil-  
lage at Aukpaque (or as he writes it Okpaak).  
He was accompanied by Capt. Spry, who is  
termed the head engineer of the party. Mr.  
Wood in his account of the visit writes, "The  
chief of the Indians (probably Pierre Tomah)  
came down to the landing place and handed  
us out of our boat and immediately several of  
the Indians, who were drawn out on the  
occasion discharged a volley of musketry,  
turned from us, a signal of receiving their  
friends; the chief then welcomed us and in-  
troduced us to the other chiefs." The party  
were then conducted to the council chamber  
where all the Indians assembled. Mr. Wood  
continues, "After some discourses relative to  
Monsieur Baille, the French priest, whom  
the government have thought proper at pre-  
sent to allow them, finding them uneasy that  
they had no priest among them for some  
time past, I told them that the governor had  
employed him to go to the Indians to the  
eastward of Halifax. . . . At their de-  
sire I began prayers with them in Mickmack,  
they all kneeling down and behaving very  
devotedly; the service concluded with an  
anthem and the blessing." Mr. Wood says  
that at that time most of the St. John river  
Indians understood the Micmac language.

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spurious imita-  
tions.

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Has the agency for the Maritime Wrapper  
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