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Woodstock, March 24, 1896.Dyspepsia, stoppage of water and bowels, fever, worms, rough hair cured by the  
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CONDITION  
POWDER**

## THE MADAWASKA SETTLEMENT.

[No. 81.]

The proximity of the County of Madawaska to the province of Quebec would naturally suggest the idea that the ancestors of the Madawaska people came from Quebec. Many however of the families that now reside in that region assert that they are the descendants of old Acadian settlers who moved there shortly after the close of the Revolutionary war and in this they are undoubtedly correct. The founders of the Madawaska settlement were chiefly some of the unfortunate exiles driven from their homes near the Bay of Fundy at the time of the expulsion of the Acadians. They sought an asylum on the banks of the St. John under the protection of Boisherbert, a French officer sent from Quebec in the summer of the year 1749 to take the management of affairs in that locality. Under his vigorous leadership the fort at the mouth of the river was repaired and occupied and another one built just above the Nerepis at what is now known as Woodman's Point where there had in earlier times been an old French fort. Shortly after the expulsion of the Acadians Boisherbert found himself at the head of as many as 1500 fugitives from the French settlements at Chignecto, Shepody, and the river Petitcodiac. Some of these temporarily established themselves at the mouth of the river in the vicinity of the old fort at Carleton where clearings were made, as shown in Bruce's plan of St. John harbor and vicinity made in 1761, in which they are called "gardens." (It may be noted in passing that residents of Carleton well remember some venerable apple trees, the trunks of very large size, which grew on the site of these gardens and were believed to have been planted by the French). Others of the Acadians established themselves at Boisherbert Fort above the Nerepis and others again ascended the river and settled at Grimross, Oromocto, and St. Ann's Point.

In the summer of 1758 three ships of war and two transports with two regiments were sent from Boston to drive the French from their posts on the St. John. They stormed the fort at the mouth of the river and after one repulse gained possession. The loss on both sides was quite large; of the French more than forty were killed and about two hundred taken prisoners, the remainder retired to Fort Boisherbert. The sloop of war Ulysses attempted to follow in pursuit but was carried into the falls and was wrecked. Boisherbert soon after retired to Canada and a good many of the Acadians accompanied him while others surrendered to the British authorities and were removed from the river. Some however remained furtively in their hiding places and these eventually formed little colonies at such places as French village (on the Hammond River Kings County) Grimross and Oromocto; their largest settlements being at St. Ann's Point, where the city of Fredericton now stands.

The settlement at St. Ann's was ruthlessly destroyed in the month of March 1759, by a party of Rangers, from the Fort Frederick garrison, led by Lieut. Moses Hazen. Speaking of this expedition General Amherst, the commander in chief of the British forces in America, says in a letter to Governor Lawrence:—"I gave a commission of Captain to Lieut. Hazen as I thought he deserved it, I am sorry to say what I have since heard of that affair has sullied his merit with me as I shall always disapprove of killing women and helpless children." When the Maugeville exploring party arrived on the river in 1761 they found only a few huts at St. Ann's Point; the buildings and chapel that formerly stood there had been destroyed by fire. When Lieut. R. G. Bruce made his survey of the river in 1761 he found the site of the first French settlement at Boisherberts Fort just above the Nerepis (now called Woodman's Point), a favorite summer resort for St. John the next at Grimross, above Gagetown; the third at the mouth of the Oromocto, and the last and principal one at St. Ann's Point. He thought that only some 1500 acres in all had been cleared and cultivated.

Upon the arrival of the Loyalists in May 1783, Major Studholme appointed Messrs. Ebenezer Foster, Fyler Dibblee, James

White and Gervais Lay a committee to investigate the legal claims of the old inhabitants on the St. John to the land on which they had settled. In the course of the report they submitted shortly afterwards this paragraph occurs:—"Above St. Ann's we found quite a number of French settlers, many of whom had been in possession a number of years. They in general appeared to be an inoffensive people, but few if any have a legal title, and as they are in general nearly in one and the same situation we thought it unnecessary to be so particular with every individual [as in the case of the other settlers]. Those who have anything more than a simple possession to plead in their favor we have properly noticed." The report then proceeds to enumerate 61 families comprising more than 350 individuals. The majority lived at a village about ten miles above Fredericton. A few families lived at the upper French settlement near Long's Creek several lived on the east side of the river below Keswick; only about three families remained at St. Ann's Point. The majority claimed to have settled on their lands about the year 1768. Joseph Martin had been on the river since 1758 and Joseph Doucet since 1763. The names of the sixty-one families of Acadians are given in the collections of the New Brunswick Historical Society, pages 110-113. It is noteworthy that notwithstanding all they had suffered at the hands of the English the Acadians were as a rule loyal to Great Britain at the time of the American revolution. Major Studholme expressly commends the services rendered by Louis Mitchell, Michel Mercure and others as couriers, also of Jean Martin and his relatives Simon, Joseph, Francis and Amant Martin and several other Acadians, who were very active and rendered important services to the king's cause particularly at the time the Machias rebels made their raid upon the river, under Col. John Allen, in 1777.

There is in the Crown land office at Fredericton an old plan which shows a "French location" on the east side of the St. John river below the mouth of the Keswick. It lies within the bounds of the tract of land reserved for the Prince of Wales American Volunteers. The settlers there were Paul Muzeroll, Mathurin Muzeroll, Francois Goodin, Baptiste Daigle, Baptiste Vienaux, Louis Lejune, Joseph Ray, Francois Herbert, Pierre Pinette, Alexis Libeaud, Pierre Muzeroll, Mathurin Gautreau. These names are found in the list of French settlers reported to Major Studholme by the committee of investigation and they are also found a little later in the grant made to the Acadians at Madawaska.

The Acadians seem to have well merited the term applied to them by the committee of investigation "an inoffensive people." For the space of thirty years after their expulsion from the shores of the Bay of Fundy they continued to be the foot ball of fortune, and while the old inhabitants settled in the townships of Burton, Gage and Maugeville, most of whom were New-Englanders and many of them active sympathizers and the Americans in the Revolutionary war, were as a rule left in peaceable possession of the farms on which they lived, whether they had any valid title or not, the unfortunate Acadians were dispossessed of their lands for the accommodation of the loyalists. That they received little consideration appears from a letter of Col. Edward Winslow's to Ward Chipman dated the 21st of May 1786 in which he says, "While I am writing, a number of Frenchmen, who have been most unjustly ousted from their land, which was reserved by the government of Nova Scotia, have made application to me and solicited processes against the trespassers; I have put them off and assured them that some lawyers will be here the second week in June; they say they have money and are determined to try the matter."

Governor Carleton and his council seem to have decided upon the removal of the Acadians from Madawaska on the ground that they had no legal sanction, not even a licence of occupation from government to warrant their remaining where they had established themselves, and because it was deemed inadvisable to interrupt the general settlement of the country by English speaking people. The Acadians, being obliged to look once more for situations more remote, ascended the St. John to what was then considered the upper bounds of the province. The leading spirit in the foundation of their settlement appears to have been Louis Mercure. Some light is thrown upon the circumstances attending the removal of the Acadians to Madawaska in the following interesting letter of the Honorable Jonathan Odell, Provincial Secretary, to Surveyor General Sproule, which now for the first time appears in print:—

FREDERICTON, 14th July 1787.

DEAR SIR:—When I met you on your way to the Upper Regions I forgot to mention the Settlement forming at Madawaska by a number of French people, partly from this neighbourhood and partly from Canada. They have in general terms been directed to settle themselves in the most convenient manner so as not to incommode one another, and in

particular so as not to interfere with improvements made prior to their respective settlements. A licence of occupation was given to a number of these people, whose beginning cultivation and allotments were reported by Lewis Mercure, and these had a promise of a grant as soon as a regular survey could be obtained of the lands, at the same time I apprehend that those who have made or are making settlements in that district, though not named in the licence of occupation are not the less entitled to the protection of government. I take this opportunity (as I have not at present an order of council on the subject) to recommend it to you while you are on the spot, to direct your Deputy—or if necessary to authorize some disinterested person in whom you can confide, to make such a survey as you may find equitable, and such as you can return to be laid before the Governor in Council, in order to prepare the way for confirming each man by a grant as soon as may be in possession of the land to which he may be found fairly entitled. I then rather take this liberty, which I am sure you will forgive, because I find reason to suspect there has been some little manoeuvring on the part of my friend Louis Mercure and others among the settlers to obtain allotments fronting on the river in such direction as to take in ground actually in possession and in some degree improved by earlier adventurers in that quarter. You perceive that I write in haste, but your own observation on the spot will enable you to fix everything properly and with impartial precision.

I am, Dear Sir

Your faithful friend  
and humble servant  
JONATHAN ODELL.

The conclusion of our brief account of the origin of the Madawaska Settlement must be deferred till next week.

W. O. RAYMOND.

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112 Anne St., Toronto.

People who think much of their humility are very proud, and all such unreal stooping is a subtle search how to go up higher.

Wisdom is of the heart rather than of the intellect; the harvest of moral thoughtfulness, patiently reaped in through years.

A fragrant flower fills the house with fragrance. You do not need to see it to know that it is near. So which Christian example.

There is no greatness so real as that inward lowliness which knows its own measure; nothing so enlightened as an humble soul.

Purity can detect the presence of the evil which it does not understand; just as the dove, which has never seen a hawk, trembles at its presence.

He who sincerely desires to become lowly of heart: must not be ashamed of performing any outward office such as the worldly heart thinks mean and humiliating.

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