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Woodstock, April 17, 1896.

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U. R. HANSON, Auctioneer, Com. Agent.
Woodstock, March 24, 1896.

THE MADAWASKA
SETTLEMENT.(CONTINUED)
[No. 82.]

The location assigned to the Acadians at Madawaska was in many respects an admirable one. The soil was fertile, they were not far removed from their compatriots of the adjoining province, the woods were full of game and the rivers swarmed with fish. Their lands extended from River Verte, or Green River, nearly to Little Falls at the mouth of the Madawaska, a distance of nine miles, the farms fronting on both sides of the St. John. A survey was not made until the year 1790, and appended to the plan then prepared by Surveyor General Sproule, and his deputy Thos. Baillie will be found this note: "The tracts represented on this plan, being subdivided into lots by the settlers and considerably improved before an actual survey was made, the irregularity of the measurements of the fronts of the lots could not therefore be altered without great injury to the settlement." The first Madawaska grant included a tract of 16,000 acres and was made to Joseph Muzeroll and fifty-one others in October 1790. An Indian village had long existed just below the mouth of the Madawaska and the land there was reserved for the tribe. The first grantees below it were Michel and Louis Mercure; among the other families settled on the east side were such familiar names as Tibideau, Cyr and Daigle. There were 38 settlers on the west side, in what is now the State of Maine but was then believed to be within the bounds of the province. Here such names as Herbert, Potier, Daigle, Cyr, Tibideau, Muzeroll and many others occur which are very common today in the County of Madawaska. The allowance to each settler was about 200 acres. A second grant of 5,235 acres was made to Joseph Soucier and others in 1794, and in 1825 Simon Herbert received 250 acres at the mouth of the River Madawaska. It is interesting to note the fact that in the accounts kept by Smonds and White of their trading operations on the St. John River before the breaking out of the Revolutionary War are recorded frequent transactions with the Acadians up the river; the names of Francis Violet, Oliver Tibideau Jr., John Robicheau and many others are found in old accounts kept by James White, some of which are today in possession of Wm. M. Jarvis, Esq., of St. John.

The poor Acadians were not even in their remote situation to be allowed to settle down to quiet life. Their lands lay on the borders of the "disputed territory" and for many years the boundary question exercised its disturbing influence. The first difficulty that arose, however, was not as regards the international boundary but as regards the boundary between New Brunswick and the Province of Quebec—or Canada East, as it was then called. Some particulars with regard to this may be gleaned from a letter written by Governor Carleton Oct. 9, 1790, to Lord Grenville, secretary of state, in which he mentions that fifty heads of families having settled about thirty miles above the Great Falls, and hearing that it was proposed to place them under the jurisdiction of Quebec, they have forwarded a memorial to be continued as part of New Brunswick. Governor Carleton thought that the boundary had better be left as at present. This incident shows that the Acadians desired to preserve their connection with the ancient "Acadie" rather than cast in their lot with the Province of Quebec, to which, one might have supposed, they would naturally have inclined. This feature will again appear in connection with the dispute over the International boundary, of which more anon.

Governor Carleton and his brother Lord Dorchester concluded as there was some doubt as to the limits of their respective jurisdiction to take joint action as far as possible with regard to the Madawaska settlement. In 1790 a company of militia was organized there of which Pierre Duperre was appointed captain, and Governor Carleton proposed to appoint Pierre Duperre and Louis Mercure as the first magistrates of the little colony, but on the requisition of the Acadians themselves, Thomas Costin, an English inhabitant settled amongst them, was appointed. Mr. Costin attended the general court of sessions at Fredericton in his capacity of justice of the peace for Madawaska. He afterwards settled at Fredericton where he taught school for a number of years. Considerable excitement was caused about this time by an attempt on the part of Quebec authorities to exercise jurisdiction at Madawaska; their officer, a Lieut. Cyr, was arrested by Mr. Costin and taken to Grand Falls. Governor Carleton was obliged to write several letters to the secretary of state to explain matters. He says the Acadians showed "a decided predilection for British government" and strongly resented the attempt of the Quebec authorities to exercise any jurisdiction over Madawaska.

After the respective claims of Quebec and New Brunswick had been satisfactorily arranged, another and a more alarming question arose as regards the western boundary of the province. This dispute did not

reach its most acute stage till some forty years later but the difficulties that from time to time cropped up with the Americans caused much uneasiness; for a time, however, this matter remained in abeyance.

Parish officers were appointed for the "district" of Madawaska as early as 1792, much to the disgust of the clerk of the peace at Fredericton no doubt, for he makes a pretty bad attempt at spelling some of the names. Here is the list: Thomas Costin, Esq., Francis Alber, Francis Violet, Commissioners of highways, Firment Sire, jr., John Ferditt, Baptis Tibbido, jr., Surveyors of highways, Lewis Sauvason, Paul Potier, Overseers, Firment Sire, sr., Bapt. Denoyer, Constables, Joseph Deggle, sr., Baptis Sire, sr., Fence Viewers, Oliver Tibbido, sr., Joseph Sausier, Pound keepers, Joseph Aublire, Hog reeve, Pierre Duperre was licensed to keep tavern at the Madawaska (his license fee 10 shillings.) Thomas Costin, Parish Clerk.

At the first elections held in New Brunswick the French settlers were not allowed to exercise their franchise; this was not on account of their nationality, but of their religion. Thus the desire to have a voice in the government is shown by the fact that in the year 1796 Capt. Pierre Duperre, for himself and nineteen other Acadians of Madawaska, presented a petition to the House of Assembly complaining that they had been prevented from giving their votes at the late election in the County of York by improper representations being made to them respecting the oaths required by law to be taken. All obstacles were soon after removed and they voted at every election from that day to this. When first established the Madawaska Settlement was separated by an interval of about thirty miles from the Grand Falls but it soon began to extend up and down the river.

In the year 1820 the state of the settlement is thus described by Mr. Fisher: "The inhabitants are the descendants of the old Acadians, who were settled on different parts of the river St. John, and who on the arrival of the English moved up to this place, where being joined by others from Canada, they formed this settlement distinct from the English and have ever since been quiet subjects and well affected to the British government. Madawaska is about midway between Fredericton and Quebec and is in a flourishing state. It has a chapel, where the rites of the Roman Catholic religion are duly performed by a missionary from Canada, who likewise with the assistance of one or two leading persons regulates the internal affairs of the settlement by settling disputes, keeping the peace, etc., and so successful have they been that, although there are neither lawyers or magistrates in the place, the courts of justice have had but little trouble from that quarter. The inhabitants are all farmers, and generally raise more than they consume, having a surplus of grain to sell to traders in the settlements or to take to Fredericton. Their manners and habits being simple they expend but little on luxuries. Their women manufacture a coarse cloth and kerseys sufficient for their own consumption. They are very lively people and hospitable but slovenly in their houses and cooking."

At the time the international boundary dispute was settled by the Ashburton treaty the Madawaska Settlement had gradually extended itself as far up the river as the mouth of the St. Francis and down the river to within about five miles of the Grand Falls. The French settlers were to be found on both banks of the river. Quite a number of Americans had settled between the St. Francis and Fish rivers and one or two even below the Fish river. There was a Chapel on the right or south bank of the river about eight miles above Edmundston for the use of the upper part of the settlement. For years the French people lived largely upon their own resources. Their fields and streams supplied provision for their daily needs. The forest supplied them with maple sugar, many tons of which were made every season. They wore their own homespun and travelled in vehicles of their own construction. They were expert canoe-men and especially excelled in the management of the pirogue or log canoe. In early times Frenchmen were frequently employed to pole travellers up the St. John river.

The first census of the Madawaska Settlement was made by the Americans in 1820 when the inhabitants were found to number over 1100 souls. In a subsequent article we shall have more to say about the Madawaska people.

W. O. RAYMOND.

Commercial Travellers.

Wm. Golding, commercial traveller, 130 Esther St., Toronto, says:—For 15 years I have suffered untold misery from Itching Piles, sometimes called pin worms. Many and many weeks have I had to lay off the road from this trouble. I tried eight other pile ointments and so-called remedies with no permanent relief to the intense itching and stinging, which irritated by scratching would bleed and ulcerate. One box of Chase's Ointment cured me completely.

Hog Cholera.

A recent telegram from Toronto says:—Cholera had obtained a hold on a drove of 258 hogs, inmates of a Humber piggery, owned by the Provincial Government. The entire lot has been slaughtered and the pens burned so that the disease will not spread. The hogs were bought at the cattle markets on May 16, and they are thought to have contracted the disease from manure in cars which previously carried infected hogs from the Western States. The disease is known to have come from the United States.

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HARTLAND, N. B., June 19, 1896.

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