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McCurdy, commanding the company of rangers there, was, when on a scout, killed by the fall of a tree; that Lieut. Hazen afterwards marched with a party up the River St. John's on the 19th February, went up higher than St. Anne's, burnt and destroyed the village, took six prisoners, killed six, and five made their escape. He returned to the fort on the 5th of March with his prisoners and without the loss of a man. One of the prisoners, whose name is Beausejour, [or Bellefontaine] has a commission from Monsieur de Galissoniere, in 1749, as major of militia for the river St. John's. It appears that the chief part of the inhabitants belonging to this river went to Canada last fall; that their numbers before the British troops came there consisted only of forty families, the rest of the inhabitants went to Canada on Brigadier Monckton's taking post at St. John's, and now that Lieut. Hazen has burnt upwards of a hundred buildings, killed the cattle and destroyed the premises, it will not be possible for the enemy to retain any hold there."

Fuller details of this mid-winter raid on St. Ann's will be found in chapter XIII. of the writer's History of the St. John River. It is doubtful whether Hazen's rangers proceeded further than the mouth of Keswick, and they made a hasty retreat to Fort Frederick fearing, doubtless, a reprisal at the hands of the Acadians and Indians. This was the first time an attempt was made to forcibly dispossess the French in their occupation of the Upper St. John. General Amherst censured the rangers for their barbarity on this occasion. "I shall always disapprove," he said, "of killing women and helpless children."

The New England troops at Fort Frederick were not always so fortunate as to escape scot free in their raids as we shall presently see.

The year after the establishment of Fort Frederick, Colonel Arbutnot succeeded Major Morris as garrison commander. Information as to the course of events subsequently will be found in the diary of Sergeant John Burrell* of Captain Moses Parker's company, which then formed part of the garrison. We learn from this source that on the 11th of August, 1759, Colonel Arbutnot and a party, consisting of one captain, 4 lieutenants and 75 men, went up the river, returning five days afterwards with two schooners taken from the French and a great deal of plunder. The schooners had been hidden in some of the creeks up the river; they were probably English prizes. The garrison celebrated the event by having a "frollek." A similar excursion a few weeks later proved less fortunate, for Burrell informs us that their men were beaten by the enemy firing upon them as they were in a small creek. The enemy were probably a party of French and Indians, and the encounter is very likely to have taken place at Swan Creek. Remains of firearms and bayonets were found in that locality many years ago by Amasa Coy. In the encounter, an ensign, a corporal and three privates were killed outright by the French and seven privates wounded, three of whom afterwards died. The names of all are given in Burrell's journal.

On the 18th October, three Frenchmen came to Fort Frederick with a flag of truce and brought news that Quebec had been taken by the English. They tendered their submission. On the 24th October Colonel Arbutnot and a party of eight officers and eighty seven non-commissioned officers and men went up the river in a vessel to bring in any of the Acadians they could secure. Col. Arbutnot returned on the 7th November with about thirty families of the Acadians, including their women and children, who had resided at various places, but most of them in the vicinity of Aukpaque. Soon after a number of the Indians came to tender their submission, and on the 13th of November the missionary Germain arrived—or, as Burrell expresses it "ye Preat himself came in." The Indians were induced, without much difficulty, to swear allegiance to King George of England, and at length "ye grate King of ye Indians came into ye Garrison for to make a grate peace with ye English." The unfortunate Acadians were sent to Halifax, but Arbutnot furnished the missionary Germain with a passport, and allowed him to remain at Aukpaque in charge of his mission to the Indians.

[Foot note.] *John Burrell's diary has lately been published in the New England Historical and Genealogical register, and was reprinted in "Acadiensis," October, 1905.

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EARLY DAYS OF WOODSTOCK.

W. O. RAYMOND.
NO. 8.

It has been the purpose of these articles, up to the present, to show how the valley of the River St. John continued under French domination until the conquest of Canada in the year 1759. The French re-established their fort at the mouth of the river in 1751, as we learn from a letter of the Marquis la Jonquiere, in which he remarks:—"As the English have boasted that they are going to establish themselves at the River St. John, I have given orders to the Sieur Boishebert, who commands there, to repair the old fort named Menacoché (or Menagoche) at the mouth of the river, and to build a barrack there for the officers and 100 men in garrison, with such magazines as are necessary." This fort the Marquis considered essential, for if the French were to abandon the St. John river the English would at once take possession. The Marquis was an ardent patriot and in his letter assures the French ministry that he will not give up an inch of land that belongs to his sovereign. He adds, however, "It is time the bounds of Acadia were settled, and that we should know positively what we are to hold, so as to put an end to all hostility and avoid the immense expense that is occasioned."

It may be noted, in passing, that la Jonquiere died at Quebec on March 17th of the next year, and was buried beneath the Church of the Recollets between his predecessors Count Frontenac and the Marquis de Vaudreuil. He was a brave man and for 55 years rendered gallant service to his country in the navy. In the course of this long experience he was in nine sea-fights, and was wounded on three occasions. His successor, de Longueuil, informed the French minister that he wished to follow the example of the late governor in keeping him well informed as regards the course of events on the River St. John.

The French authorities at Quebec were obliged to place their reliance chiefly in the Indians to frustrate the occupation of the valley of the St. John by the English. To this end the savages were encouraged to claim the territory on the river as their own, and to regard the English as intruders. They were instructed by the missionaries to repel any advance on the part of the English, and to plunder any ships that landed on their shores. The most conspicuous leader of the French in Acadia at this time was the Abbe le Loutre. He was an ardent patriot and was empowered to act as the political agent of the French authorities of Quebec. He was a warrior priest and was deemed by the English as their arch-enemy. In his efforts to make use of the Indians, to prevent the English from taking possession of the territory north of the Bay of Fundy, he was ably seconded by the priest of the St. John river, Germain.

The vacillation of the Indians was such that le Loutre was often sorely tried. "If all our savages were Frenchman," he says, "we should not be embarrassed, but the wretches get tired and will perhaps leave us in our greatest need." In April, 1752, the French governor complained that it was difficult to keep them from making peace with the English, though Father Germain was doing his best to keep them on the war path." About this time le Loutre speaks of having with him at Beausejour, the Chief of the Medoctec savages of the River St. John, whom he calls Toubick.* This was probably the Chief called Noel Tobig, who went to Halifax with others in 1749 to negotiate with Governor Cornwallis, as already mentioned

*[Foot note.] In all probability the River Tobique was named after this chief or some of his family. W. O. R.

in these articles.

The missionary Germain's headquarters seem always to have been at Aukpaque, but Medoctec was now rising again into importance. This we learn from a statement made in 1753, by the Abbe de L'Isle Dieu and le Loutre, as to the condition of affairs on the River St. John. They say:—"At a distance of eighteen leagues from Father Germain's post is another called Medoctec, which is dependent on the same mission and served by the Jesuit Father Loverga, who has been there nine months and has the care of a band of Maliseets. But, in addition to the fact that Father Loverga will soon be leaving, he would be of little service there on account of his great age, and it would be better to send thither Germain's assistant, Father Audren, since the mission of Medoctec is daily becoming more important, especially to those savages whose chief occupation is beaver hunting."

The Indians at Medoctec continued in their hostility to English rule until Quebec was taken, after which they seem to have gradually acquiesced in the new order of things. But for half a century at least the valley of the St. John river must be regarded as a territory in dispute. That little spot, in our immediate neighbourhood, where stood the old village of Medoctec, became a place of consequence in the eyes of French and English rulers and statesmen as the headquarters of a strong and warlike tribe. So long ago as the year 1716, the Marquis de Vaudreuil encouraged the Maliseets to claim the lands on the River St. John as an inheritance handed down to them by their ancestors, and his proposal that a church should be built for them at Medoctec by their "old father," the King of France, had, as a principal object, the cementing of their alliance with the French and giving permanency to the occupation by the Indians of their fort and village.

After the return of Loverga to Quebec, about the year 1754, the Jesuit missionary Germain, occasionally visited Medoctec, but the Indian chapel fell into a state of dilapidation. In 1767 the missionary Bailly wrote in his parish register that he had removed the parish bell and ornaments to Aukpaque and had ordered the chapel to be pulled down, as it had become merely a shelter for voyageurs and was put to very improper uses. The bell and ornaments ought all to be restored, he adds, if the mission is ever re-established.

After the Acadian expulsion, a considerable number of refugees sought shelter upon the St. John, where they remained in comparative security until after the surrender of Louisburg to General Amherst on the 26th July, 1758. A few weeks later Colonel Monckton drove the French up the river destroying their settlements as far as Gagetown.

With the landing of Monckton at the mouth of the river, on the 20th September, 1758, and the establishment of Fort Frederick, we may date the permanent occupation of the country by the English. Two hundred Indians lay in ambush when the English landed, but their chief, overawed by the number of Monckton's troops, would not suffer them to fire. They retired with some precipitation to Aukpaque giving the alarm as they went and soon afterwards accompanied the missionary Germain to Canada.

The garrison placed at Fort Frederick consisted, for the most part, of Massachusetts troops under command of Major Morris. During the ensuing winter, a scouting party was sent to destroy the French settlement at St. Anns. Sir Jeffery Amherst, commander-in-chief of the forces in America, mentions this expedition in a letter to William Pitt of the 19th April, 1759. "I have received" he writes, "a report from Major Morris, commanding at Fort Frederick on St. John's River in the Bay of Fundy that Captain

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