

La Société Historique Acadienne

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DIX-SEPTIÈME CAHIER  
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Vol. II, no 7



OCTOBRE, NOVEMBRE, DÉCEMBRE 1967

MONCTON, N.-B.

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LA SOCIÉTÉ HISTORIQUE ACADIENNE

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Le Ministère des Postes, à Ottawa, a autorisé l'affranchissement en numéraire et l'envoi comme objet de deuxième classe de la présente publication.

Entre Nous

Si la Société Historique Acadienne décernait des médailles de mérite, elle devrait le faire en faveur du Père Clarence d'Entremont. En plus de son dévouement inlassable à la Société Historique, il fait bénéficier chacun de nos Cahiers de sa contribution intéressante et généreuse. Cette fois, il nous présente un document historique trop peu connu jusqu'ici malgré son grand intérêt et il nous permet d'en obtenir une intelligence facile grâce aux notes explicatives qu'il nous fournit. C'est le journal même du major Roger Morris racontant jusque dans les moindres détails son incursion dévastatrice chez les Acadiens de la région du Cap Sable en 1758.

Un nouveau venu à la Société Historique, mais non des moins intéressés à l'histoire acadienne puisqu'il en est le professeur à l'Université de Moncton, M. Jean Daigle, licencié en histoire, nous offre aujourd'hui une étude sur un personnage de l'Acadie française, Michel Le Neuf, Sieur de la Vallière. Nous ne doutons pas que ce soit le début d'une longue collaboration de sa part et nous l'en remercions à l'avance.

M. Régis Brun, toujours passionné de l'histoire acadienne nous fait part de quelques documents intéressants de sa collection. Quelques-uns de ceux-ci ajoutent quelque lumière sur des articles déjà parus dans les Cahiers précédents; d'autres ouvrent des perspectives aux chercheurs de l'histoire régionale du sud-ouest du Nouveau-Brunswick.

Plusieurs historiens nous parlent de transports chargés de déportés acadiens de l'île Saint-Jean qui sombrèrent dans l'Atlantique en 1758. Très peu de détails nous sont donnés cependant parce que personne ne semble en avoir à fournir. Nous espérons publier dans notre prochain Cahier ce qui semble être le journal du capitaine même de l'un de ces transports et qui constitue un récit pathétique s'il en fut.

*
* *

Enfin, à l'occasion des Fêtes, les rédacteurs des Cahiers, avec Madame la Présidente et les Conseillers, sont heureux de souhaiter aux collaborateurs, aux lecteurs et à tous les membres, un Joyeux Noël et, à la mode acadienne, "une Bonne et Heureuse Année et le Paradis à la fin de vos jours".

Notes sur Michel Le Neuf, Sieur De La Vallière, Seigneur de Beaubassin et Commandant A l'Acadie de 1678 à 1684,

par Jean Daigle, de l'Université de Moncton

Avertissement

Ce travail met l'accent sur l'aspect chronologique de la vie de Michel Le Neuf de La Vallière. C'est que nos recherches, jusqu'à l'heure présente, nous ont porté surtout à découvrir les différentes étapes de la vie de La Vallière en Nouvelle-France et en Acadie. Il est bien entendu que ces recherches n'ont d'autre but que de situer le personnage dans son cadre spatio-temporel ce qui nous permettra par la suite de soulever certains problèmes particuliers de l'administration de La Vallière comme gouverneur de l'Acadie.

Famille

Michel Le Neuf était issu d'une famille noble. En effet, Talon dans son mémoire de 1667 disait qu'il n'y avait que 4 familles nobles au Canada: "Those meant were the Repentigny, Tilly, Potherie and Aillebout. . ."⁽¹⁾

Le surnom La Vallière n'apparaît qu'en 1664; "The surname of La Valliere is first mentioned in connection with a property near the Fort Three Rivers, Quebec, possessed by him in 1664."⁽²⁾

Ce fut aussi Jacques de La Potherie qui commanda la Nouvelle-France de la mort de M. de Mézy, survenue dans la nuit du 5 au 6 mai 1665, à l'arrivée de M. de Tracy à Québec le 30 juin 1665.

Jeunesse de Michel Le Neuf.

Michel Le Neuf, fils de Jacques Le Neuf et de Marguerite Denis, naquit et fut baptisé à Trois-Rivières le 31 octobre 1640. Durant sa jeunesse, il alla étudier en France d'où il revint en août 1657.⁽³⁾

En 1665, il se marie à St-Pierre du Cap Breton avec Marie Denis, fille de Nicolas Denis seigneur de tout le littoral du fleuve St-Laurent depuis 1653.

Michel Le Neuf en Acadie

En 1666, il était déjà en Acadie où il commandait: "Il (M. de Tracy) reçut peu de jours après avis que le sieur de La Vallière, qui commandait à L'Isle Royale (Ile du Cap Breton), était attaqué par les Anglais."⁽⁴⁾

L'abbé Faillon s'appuyant sur Dollier, dit que la Vallière accompagna M. de Courcelles dans une expédition au lac Ontario en 1671.⁽⁵⁾

Son état de services s'allonge lorsque le gouverneur Frontenac l'envoie en mai 1676 patrouiller les côtes de l'Acadie:

"Veu la requeste présentée par Michel Le Neuf escuyer sieur de la Vallière contenant qu'au mois de May dernier ayant esté renvoyé par le comte de Frontenac Gouverneur pour le Roy en ce pais le long des costes de l'Acadie, observer ce qui s'y passait et s'informer des desseins et entreprises des Hollandais et autres ennemis de l'Estat, empescher les troubles qu'ils pourroient apporter aux traites et pesches des sujets de Sa Majesté. . . "⁽⁶⁾

Au cours de cette mission Michel Le Neuf arraisonna trois caïches anglaises qui chargeaient du charbon dans l'île du Cap Breton. En raison de ses bons services, Michel Le Neuf se vit accorder une concession en Acadie: il s'agit de Chignectou ou Beaubassin.⁽⁷⁾

Mais l'acte de concession contenait des réserves en faveur des habitants qui s'étaient établis sur place avant l'arrivée de La Vallière. En effet, un groupe, dirigé par Bourgeois, issu de Port-Royal était venu s'établir dans la région de Beaubassin. ". . . Bourgeois fonda sur le territoire de Chignectou un établissement demi-commercial et demi-agricole."⁽⁸⁾

Après quelques heurts entre les deux colonies rivales, celles-ci ne tardèrent pas à se fondre ensemble et former un tout harmonieux.

Le gouverneur en titre d'Acadie à ce moment là était Jacques de Chambly (1673-1677). Le 3 septembre 1677 Colbert le désigne pour les Antilles.⁽⁹⁾

L'Acadie n'ayant pas de gouverneur, le gouverneur de la Nouvelle-France Frontenac prit sur lui de nommer un nouveau titulaire.⁽¹⁰⁾ La nomination de La Vallière n'aurait pas été entérinée par la métropole car le 2 novembre 1681, Frontenac, dans une lettre au ministre Colbert, recommande fortement la nomination de La Vallière comme gouverneur de l'Acadie: ". . . qui y commande depuis trois ans sur la commission que je lui ai donnée."⁽¹¹⁾

La commission de Frontenac à La Vallière aurait-elle été faite à l'insu du pouvoir central en 1678 pour n'être communiquée que quelque temps plus tard pour que l'on s'incline devant le fait accompli?

Il semblerait que le roi l'aurait appris assez tard car il donne des instructions à M. de la Barre en 1682 pour qu'il examine si: ". . . ledit La Vallière en est capable ou s'il y a quelqu'autre officier qui puisse dignement remplir cette place."⁽¹²⁾

M. de Meulles répond la même année que: "Le poste de l'Acadie se rend considérable. Il se loue de La Vallière qu'il propose pour gouverneur et de lui régler ses appointements."⁽¹³⁾

Le 5 août 1683, le roi mande à M. de la Barre: "J'approuve la proposition que vous m'avez faite de nommer le Sr de La Vallière pour gouverneur de l'Acadie. Vous trouverez cy joint sa commission; et j'ay réglé ses appointements à 2 m l . . ."⁽¹⁴⁾

La Vallière, le 1er mai 1684, reçoit une dépêche qui lui communique la nouvelle: ". . . His Majesty had chosen him as governor with a salary of 1,800 livres and that the patent, not yet signed, would be sent by the first opportunity."⁽¹⁵⁾

Pourtant, une dépêche royale du 10 avril 1684 relève La Vallière de ses fonctions de gouverneur d'Acadie.⁽¹⁶⁾

Que s'était-il passé dans l'intervalle? Le 8 février 1682, le roi avait accordé une concession à Bergier, Gauthier, Boucher et Mantes pour qu'ils établissent une compagnie de pêche sédentaire.⁽¹⁷⁾

A partir de ce moment, les mémoires de protestations contre les empiètements, les actes de piraterie et de contrebande de La Vallière commencent à s'accumuler sur le bureau du ministre Colbert. Certains de ces mémoires ne sont pas signés,⁽¹⁸⁾ d'autres sont envoyés par les gens de la Compagnie de la Pêche sédentaire.⁽¹⁹⁾ Ils stigmatisent la conduite du gouverneur La Vallière qui, en accordant des permis de pêche aux Bostonnais moyennant somme d'argent, ruine la pêche sédentaire en Acadie et prépare la prise de l'Acadie par les gens de la Nouvelle-Angleterre.

Ces mémoires s'appuient sur le fait qu'un accord entre Grandfontaine et Temple défendait aux pêcheurs anglais de venir pêcher en Acadie.⁽²⁰⁾ Malgré cela, disent les mémoires, La Vallière se fait l'instigateur de la perte de l'Acadie. Comme on le constate, ces mémoires ne sont pas étrangers à la désaffection de La Vallière.

Ces documents dans leur ensemble disent que La Vallière n'est pas un digne représentant de sa majesté.

Et c'est justement ici que se pose l'énigme. Ces mémoires ont ceci de particulier qu'ils contredisent les louanges et la considé-

ration que les personnages officiels de la Nouvelle-France accordent à La Vallière. Des témoignages se contredisent et il se pourrait fort bien que les gens de la compagnie de la pêche sédentaire aient organisé une campagne de dénigration contre La Vallière.

Ce qu'il y a d'étonnant c'est que le 14 avril 1684, le roi informe Bergier, un des principaux actionnaires de la compagnie de la pêche sédentaire, qu'il est nommé lieutenant en Acadie pour trois ans sous Perrot.⁽²¹⁾

Quelques jours avant, soit le 10 avril, le sieur Perrot était transféré de son poste de gouverneur de Montréal à celui de gouverneur de l'Acadie.⁽²²⁾

C'est pour cette raison que les historiens sont si divisés quant au jugement qu'ils portent sur La Vallière.

Certains ont vu dans La Vallière un autre de ces personnages qui, remplissant des fonctions officielles dans des territoires éloignés, n'ont cherché qu'à profiter de la situation. "He was in fact a smuggler and, unless greatly belied, something of a pirate".⁽²³⁾ D'autres ont exprimé le regret que La Vallière, en butte à des persécutions, n'a pu donner sa pleine mesure: "Le seigneur de Beaubassin, à peine âgé de quarante-trois ans, n'eût sans doute pas demandé mieux que de se dévouer longtemps au service d'une colonie riche de ces promesses, dont il avait fait sa seconde patrie."⁽²⁴⁾ Rameau de Saint-Père montre les éléments positifs de l'administration de La Vallière: "M. de La Vallière ne se borna pas à édifier un manoir: il amena des bestiaux, fit enclore des défrichements et des pâturages, et à l'imitation des colons de Port-Royal il créa des polders, en faisant entourer de digues une quantité considérable de marais."⁽²⁵⁾

Cette diversité d'opinions que l'on retrouve chez les historiens s'explique du fait que La Vallière, décrié par les gens de la Compagnie de la Pêche sédentaire, démis de ses fonctions de gouverneur par le roi, n'apparaît plus que comme un aventurier sans scrupules.

Cependant, les événements et les faits attestés par des documents officiels jettent un peu de lueur sur la carrière de La Vallière. Le recensement nominatif de la seigneurie de Beaubassin fait par M. de Meulles en 1686, démontre qu'elle est bien établie avec 129 individus. La seigneurie fut visitée en 1686 par monseigneur Saint-Vallier. Un fait témoigne de la consistance de la seigneurie; Beaubassin fut constitué en paroisse: "Un sulpicien, le père Claude Trouvé, venu de Québec, y construisit la première église."⁽²⁶⁾

En butte à des vexations de toutes sortes La Vallière quitta l'Acadie pour poursuivre sa carrière en Nouvelle-France comme

commandant du fort Frontenac en 1692,⁽²⁷⁾ comme commandant de la frégate "Le Bouffon"⁽²⁸⁾ en 1694.

Conclusion

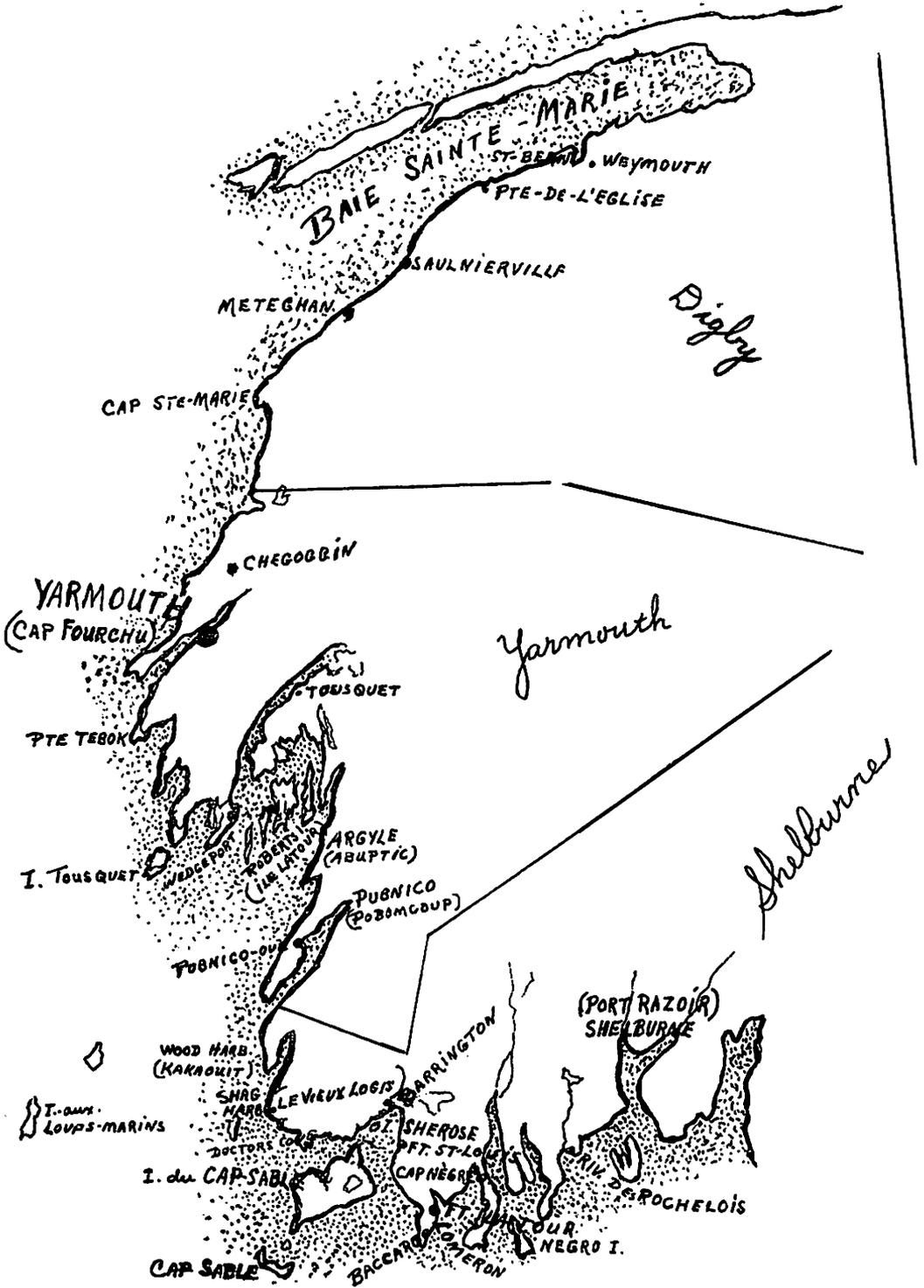
La Vallière est sous la dépendance de Frontenac au point de vue hiérarchique;⁽²⁹⁾ on serait porté à croire que la ligne hiérarchique des pouvoirs ferait que la correspondance touchant l'administration du gouverneur d'Acadie devrait aller vers Québec, où se trouve son supérieur immédiat, plutôt que vers la France. Pourtant, c'est l'inverse qui se produit, les rapports concernant La Vallière s'entassent sur le bureau du ministre. "En droit, ils relèvent des gouverneurs du Canada; en fait, ils reçoivent leurs ordres du ministre et correspondent directement avec lui"⁽³⁰⁾ Perrot agira ainsi par la suite.

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- 1 W. C. Milner "La Vallière of Chignecto" *Acadiensis*, (1901): 159
 - 2 *Ibid.*, 159
 - 3 Benjamin Suite *Histoire des Canadiens-français* (8 volumes, Montréal, 1882-84) 4: 148
 - 4 Charlevoix, Pierre François Xavier *Histoire et description de la Nouvelle-France avec le journal historique d'un voyage fait par ordre du roi dans l'Amérique Septentrionale* (6 volumes, Paris, 1746) 1: 388
 - 5 Faillon, Etienne-Michel *Histoire de la colonie française au Canada* (3 volumes, Paris, 1865-66), 3: 333
 - 6 *Jugements et délibérations du Conseil Souverain de la Nouvelle-France* (6 volumes, Québec, 1885-1891) 2: 90
 - 7 *Mémoires des commissaires du roi et de ceux de sa Majesté britannique sur les possessions et les droits respectifs des deux couronnes en Amérique* (3 volumes, Paris, 1755) 2: 575
 - 8 Rameau de Saint-Père *Une colonie féodale en Amérique L'Acadie (1604-1881)* (2 volumes Montréal, 1889) 1: 168
 - 9 Voir Chambly, Jacques de, un *Dictionnaire Biographique Canadien* (Québec, 1966)
 - 10 Commission du sieur Frontenac au sieur de La Vallière, 16 juillet 1678, C II D, 1: 148-149
 - 11 *Collection de manuscrits relatifs à la Nouvelle-France* (4 volumes Québec, 1883-1885) 1: 283-284
 - 12 *Instructions du roi à M. de la Barre AC, B 8:6*
 - 13 *Collection de Manuscrits relatifs à la Nouvelle-France* 1: 289
 - 14 *Ibid.*, 1: 311
 - 15 W. C. Milner "La Vallière of Chignecto" *Acadiensis* I (1901), 213
 - 16 Ordonnance portant défense au sieur La Vallière de commander en Acadie, C II D, 1:177
 - 17 Extrait du registre du Conseil d'état établissant la Compagnie de la pêche sédentaire en Acadie, C II D 1: 150
 - 18 Documents concernant l'exploitation des pêcheries en Acadie, C II D 1: 170, 173
 - 19 *Ibid.* C II D 1:162-166, 175-176
 - 20 *Collection de Manuscrits "Traité entre les Sieurs de Grandfontaine et Temple"*, 1:198-199
 - 21 *Ordre du roi conférant le commandement de l'Acadie au sieur Bergier*, C II D 1:185-186
 - 22 *Provisions de gouverneur de l'Acadie pour le sieur Perrot*, AC B 11:30
 - 23 Hannay, James *History of New Brunswick* (Saint-Jean, N.-B., 1909), 22
 - 24 Bernard, Antoine *Le drame acadien depuis 1604* (Montréal, 1936), 142
 - 25 Rameau de Saint-Père *Une colonie féodale en Amérique. L'Acadie (1604-1881)* (Montréal, 1889 2 volumes), 1:170
 - 26 Arsenault, Bona *Histoire et généalogie des Acadiens* (Québec, 1965), 63
 - 27 Milner, W. C. "La Vallière of Chignecto", *Acadiensis* I (1901); 224
 - 28 *Ibid.*, 223
 - 29 Dans la commission de Frontenac du 7 avril 1672, Edits et Ordonnances III, 40-41, nous constatons que, tout comme Courcelles, Frontenac est "... gouverneur et notre lieutenant-général en Canada, Acadie et Isle de Terre-neuve. . ."
 - 30 Lauvrière, Emile *La Tragédie d'un peuple* (Paris, 1924) 1: 124

Major Morris Report

**His Raid from Pubnico
to Chegoggin 1758**

le sud-ouest de la N.-E.



Major Morris Report

HIS RAID FROM PUBNICO TO CHEGOGGIN — 1958

(INTRODUCTION AND FOOTNOTES BY FR. CLARENCE J. D'ENTREMONT)

Introduction

At the time of the Expulsion of the Acadians three major raids took place at Cape Sable, which then comprised the county of Shelburne and a large portion of the county of Yarmouth. The first raid took place in the Spring of 1756, when Major Prebble burned along Barrington Bay 44 buildings and brought to Boston 70 Acadians. The second one took place in the Fall of 1758 in the county of Yarmouth, when 69 persons were made prisoners. The third took place in the month of June, 1759; it was rather the surrender of 151 Acadians who preferred to be exiled than to die of hunger and misery in the woods.

Although the raid of 1758 brought into exile less Acadians than the two others, nevertheless it was of the three the most devastating, the most widespread, the one which also lasted the longest, when from the middle of September to the end of October it brought destruction from Pubnico to Chegoggin, plundering all that could be destroyed and reducing to ashes all that could be burned.

This raid of 1758 was under the command of Major Roger Morris, to whom, by order of Governor Lawrence, Colonel Monckton had entrusted the mission of apprehending the Acadians who could still be hiding in the Cape Sable region and to lay waste their dwellings, their fields and all their belongings. Major Morris has left a report in which he has recorded with many details everything that took place during this raid. This report or journal had been in the possession of the distinguished American annalist George Chalmers, whose papers, after his death, were dispersed among the booksellers of London. It was here that this document was found by Thomas Aspinwall, Chairman of the Publishing Committee of the Collection of the Massachusetts Historical Society. It appeared in 1871 in the 39th issue of this Collection, that is the 9th Volume of the 4th Series, (pp. 222-237), under the general title of "The Aspinwall Papers". At the time of this publication the whole collection of the "Aspinwall Papers" had become the property of Samuel L. M. Barlow, an eminent counsellor of the city of New York. This document, here published for the second time only, is now a part of the Chambers Collection of the New York Public Library. (See "The 'Foreign Protestants' and the Settlement of Nova Scotia", by Winthrop Bell, University of Toronto Press, 1960, p. 516).

Most of the places mentioned in this paper and its comment will be found on the map "Le Sud-Ouest de la N.-E.", published by LA SOCIÉTÉ HISTORIQUE ACADIENNE — QUATORZIÈME CAHIER — Vol. II, no 4, Mars 1967, p. 162, and reproduced here.



Received Col. Monckton's Orders of Halifax Monday morning the 11th Sep. 1758 to proceed to Cape Sable with a Detachment, consisting of 2 Cap^{ns}, 7 Sub., 6 Serg^{ts}, 4 Drum.^s & 240 Rank & file, from the Regulars, & about 60 of Cap.ⁿ Gorhams Company of

Rangers; Embark'd at half an hour after one that same day on board the Charles Transport, & Sail'd Immediately after, under Convoy of the Squirrel Man of War, Cap.ⁿ Wheelock, in Company with the Fleet destined for the Bay of Fundy.

13th. In the Evening, Cap.ⁿ Wheelock acquainted the Master of the Charles Transport, that he was then to put himself under my direction — We immediately seperated from the Fleet, & Shortend Sail, till we were joy'n'd by the Carolina Transport in which the remainder of my detachment of Regulars, were embark'd. I gave orders to the Master of the Carolina, and the Master of the Halifax Pilot Schooner, to keep close company with us, & not to Seperate if possible to prevent it.

15th. At 6 o'clk in the Evening, came to an Anchor in the mouth of the Bay of Saltponds River,¹ And sent Cap.ⁿ Gorham, with between 40 & 50 Rangers, in the two whale boats, to try if he could fall in with a point of Land, from whence, he told me, he had taken off a French Family, about two years & a half ago; Cap.ⁿ Gorham returned, about 5 o'clk the next morning, without having discovered the Place,² he went to look for, but said he had been on shore upon some Land where, there were, Potatoes, & Tobacco planted, some of the latter was fresh cut, & laid to dry, & that he imagined the Inhabitants cou'd not be at any great distance.³

16th. At 7 o'clock in the morning we weigh'd Anchor & went up the River of Saltponds about five miles, to a point of Land, where our Pilot inform'd me, he was with a party sent from Halifax, about a year & a half ago, to destroy some French Inhabitants, then settled there, Cap.ⁿ Gorham likewise told me, it was the Place where he had been on shore Night before.⁴ I began to disembark my Detachment, at 11 oc'lk. And immediately after sent Cap.ⁿ Gorham with all his Rangers, & 2 Sub.^s & 60 Regulars, to try to find out any Tracks that might lead to any House, or Plantation — I took Post upon a Rising ground,⁵ about 500 yards from where I landed, & where I found the Chimneys of two destroy'd houses, & Several gardens & little divisions of ground, fenced in & sow'd, with Potatoes, Peas, Beans, & Tobacco, some of the Potatoes had been very lately weeded, & some of the Tobacco fresh cut, which made us conclude, it cou'd not have been many days, since some people had been there, Cap.ⁿ Gorham returned about 7 o'clock in the Evening, without having fallen in with any Traces

1 — This bay and this river, located between Pubnico and Tusket, even though there is "Salt Lake" between Eel Brook (Ste-Anne-du-Ruisseau) and Roberts island (Isle La Tour), have to be, according to the description given here, Argyle Bay and Argyle River.

2 — This point of land could be north of Roberts Island, facing Rocco Point, where there was a small settlement at the time of the Acadians.

3 — This was probably "John Frost Island" in Argyle, linked, up to last year, to Glenwood by a bridge now demolished and replaced by a causeway a few hundred yards up the river.

4 — The river used to be navigable for certain size vessels up to the Narrows, the passage between John Frost Island and Glenwood. A hundred years ago there were several shipyards along the Argyle River, even higher than the Narrows. (See "Historical Sketches of Glenwood and the Argyles, Yarmouth County, N. S.," by Jackson Ricker, Truro, N. S., 1941, p. 35).

5 — Seems to be the hill where is located the United Church of Argyle, at Frost Corner, where there was an Acadian settlement, 500 yards approximately from the Narrows.

by which he could form a judgment, of where there were any Inhabitants.

17th. At five o'clock in the Morning, I sent Cap.ⁿ Gorham, with 35 Rangers in the Whale boats to try if he could find any settlements up the River, & at the same time I sent Cap.ⁿ Lieut. Watmough, with the remainder of the Rangers, & 2 Sub.^s, & 73 of the Regulars, to make discoveries, in the Country; Cap.ⁿ Gorham told him the course he was to steer, The forepart of the day being extremely rainy, & foggy, Cap.ⁿ Gorham was prevented from going with the Whale boats, & at about 12 o'clock, a party was sent in by Cap.ⁿ Watmough, with three canoes (two with sails) which were taken about five miles by water, to the Eastward of where I was posted;⁶ They had in them a fishing spear, & a can of Butter-milk, about two days made, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, Cap.ⁿ Watmough returned, with all his Party, & reported that he had fallen in with some tracks, & had seen two houses, & some Land which appear'd to be laid out in Meadows & cultivated, about Eight miles distance, but situated on the other side of an Arm of the Sea,⁷ which he cou'd not ford, therefore came back:—

Upon this information, the Scheme of sending Cap.ⁿ Gorham as was intended in the morning, was set aside, & as soon as the Rangers, who had return'd with Cap.ⁿ Watmough, had refresh'd themselves, I added to them 2 Sub.^s & 82 Regulars, & sent them back, with Cap.ⁿ Watmough, to the place where he had made the discovery in the Morning, & Cap.ⁿ Gorham, with a Party of Rangers, went in the two Whale boats, to the Place where the Canoes were found, from thence he was to joyn the other Party & take upon him the Command of the whole; His orders were in case he found himself sufficiently strong to destroy all the houses, settlements &c. he shou'd meet with, & to bring off such Inhabitants as wou'd surrender, but if from any information, or by falling in with any Large fresh Tracks, he shou'd not think himself able to carry his Point, he was then to return to me, that we might settle about stationing of the ships & march into the Country, with the whole Detachment;

18th. At a quarter past ten in the morning, rec.^d by a Ranger the following Letter, from Cap.ⁿ Gorham.

"Sir I met Cap.ⁿ Watmough last night at the place & sent him across the Isthmus,⁸ I, with the Boats proceeded nigh two leagues to the Eastward,⁹ but not finding an Entrance returned, & this morning marched over the Isthmus, & find it a very large

6— Most probably Morton Neck, Lower Argyle.

7— This "Arm of the Sea" was Pubnico Harbour. Capt. Watmough went as far as the meadows at the head of Pubnico Harbour, between Pubnico Head and West Pubnico. The two houses which he saw "about Eight miles distance, but situated on the other side" were in reality not much more than five miles from where he stood, on a tongue of land on which is the old cemetery of West Pubnico and which, from his point of observation, seems to be linked with the other or eastern side of the harbour. To our knowledge this is the only document which makes mention of Acadians at the time of the Expulsion in what is now West Pubnico.

Marsh,¹⁰ & doubt not, but there are French Settlements, have therefore left directions, with Cap.ⁿ Watmough & am resolved to try to find out the Entrance,¹¹ & joyn him by Water, tonight, or tomorrow; We may in the Interim want Provisions, or before the business is done, & have sent a man to Pilot the Schooner down to the Entrance, which will be of service, not only in bringing Provisions, but in facilitating the business we are on: I shall convey Reports of my proceedings, as often, as occasion may require to you, I am your very humble Servant —

“Jos. Gorham.

“Monday Morning 9 o'clock

“To Major Morris, Commanding Officer.”

I immediately comply'd with his desire of sending him provisions, & the Schooner, I also sent in the Schooner the Pilot of our Ship, because he told me, he was very well acquainted with Pugnico River,¹² which, (from the description the Rangers gave) he imagined, was the entrance, where Cap.ⁿ Gorham intended the Schooner shou'd be sent to. The Schooner sailed a little before one o'clock, in the afternoon with my answer.

“Sir, I received yours of nine o'clock this morning, & have sent in the schooner, 4 days provisions of Pork, & Biscuits for 140 men, tho; I hope, you will be able to do all your business, before that is expended; I have given M^r. Bulkley orders, to put himself under your directions; I am, wishing you all the success you can desire — Sir your most hble. Serv.

“Roger Morris.

“Monday a quarter after twelve o'clock.

“P.S. I have likewise sent you the Pilot of our Vessell, who may perhaps be of service to you.

“To Cap.ⁿ Gorham commanding a Detachment from my Post.”

At half an hour after nine o'clock at night I received the following Letter from Cap.ⁿ Gorham.

“Sir, I met with Capt. Watmough at about 12 o'clock who had made a Tour round the head of the River,¹³ & in possession of a very large Village,¹⁴ where there is a Mass house, & several dwelling houses, all deserted; there is potatoes, — &c. in the ground, I believe nigh three hundred Bushells notwithstanding

8 — Eastern shore of West Pubnico.

9 — Along the western shore of West Pubnico, up to about the Twin Islands.

10 — The meadows at the head of Pubnico Harbour.

11 — Of Pubnico Harbour.

12 — Pubnico Harbour.

13 — Pubnico Head.

14 — The East Pubnico settlement, located two miles south of the Head, described in the article “Le Manoir et les Armoiries de la famille Mius-d'Entramont d'Acadie”, published in 1964 in SIXIEME CAHIER of LA SOCIETE HISTORIQUE ACADIENNE, pp. 17-24. Note that in this article it is stated erroneously that the raid in Pubnico took place in 1756.

its very apparent the people are often here, to tend their ground, yet no paths, can yet be discovered to find — their dwelling places, there is two Canoes up this River, on our Route, from which, am in hopes of gaining some knowledge of their paths, there is also another village, on the other side of this River,¹⁵ which I landed at on my coming up, its not quite so large yet will be proportionably a support to the Enemy.

“The Schooner is now anchor’d about two miles below me, & I presume its a safe harbour. What I wou’d beg leave to propose is this, that as the destroying the potatoes &c. in this River, is very necessary, & further excursions, requisite to be immediately — in search of the Inhabitants, both which, the Force I now have, will not be able to accomplish in season, The Transports, & whole Command, come into the River, or an assistance of Forty more men joyn me, the latter, if you think fit, may be most convenient, as some difficulty perhaps will attend, in piloting the Ships round; tho; its a very good harbour, & any men on board the Schooner, will undertake it if necessary.

“I am Sr. yr. very h^{ble}. Serv^t.

“Jos. Gorham

“Ponbinkon River
18th Sep^r. 1758.”

“To Major Morris Commanding
His Majestys Troops at Cape Sable.”

At 6 o’clock in the morning sent 1 Sub: & 50 of the Regulars, to reinforce Capⁿ Gorham, & took that opportunity of sending an answer to his Letter which I received last night.

“Sir, I received your letter of the 18th Sept. last night, I shall immediately embark the remainder of my Command on board the Transports, in order to proceed to where you are, as soon as you send me a Pilot, to carry up the Ships, which I beg you’ll do immediately after you receive this; but lest the wind shou’d prevent our sailing immediately, I have sent Lieut. Widdrington, with 50 men to joyn you, In the mean time, I am Sir

“Your Most h^{ble} Serv^t.

“Roger Morris

“Tuesday Morning 6 o’clock
19th Sep^r. 1758,

“To Capⁿ. Gorham.”

As soon as I had destroy’d the Gardens,¹⁶ I reimbarcked my Detachment, & a little before ten o’Clock, the whole was on board the Transports. At one o’Clock, a Party came to me, from Capⁿ Gorham, with the Pilot of our Ship, & we got under sail, at 3

15 — The two houses of West Pubnico.

16 — See above note 6.

o'Clock in the afternoon, but the Tide being near spent, the Channel very narrow, & the wind not favourable, we were obliged to come to an Anchor, in half an hour after we had made sail.

20th. Made sail at 7 o'Clock in the morning & Came to an Anchor at half an hour after twelve, in Ponbinkon River, Capⁿ Gorham came on board some time after we had been at Anchor, & told me, he had not been able to find any Tracks, which cou'd give us hope of falling in with the Inhabitants; That he had sent out Capⁿ Watmough, that morning with 70 men, to follow the Paths, which went from the Village where he was posted — I landed with part of my Detachment, at ten o'Clock at night, when Capⁿ Watmough reported to me, that he had been out, upon a reconnoitring party, & that after having marched about five miles, the Tracks became quite lost, & that afterwards, he cou'd not make any discovery at all.

21st. At ten o'Clock in the morning, the remainder of my command were landed; Capⁿ Gorham sent a Serj^t. & eight men to the Eastward to try if they could fall upon any Tracks.

22d. At twelve o'Clock Capⁿ Gorham's Serj^t. return'd, without having discovered any thing at all. — At two o'Clock in the afternoon, I ordered Capⁿ Maunsell, with 100 men, to cross the River, & to destroy, two houses, & some Gardens &c. that were about two miles below, where I was posted¹⁷: —

23d. Having destroyed all the gardens &c,¹⁸ I began to embark my Detachment, about 11 o'Clock, & left Capⁿ Gorham, to set fire to the houses & Barns, as soon as he shou'd see the long Boats put off from the shore, with our last Division, & then to come on board with his Company; — Capⁿ Maunsell sent me word, he shou'd be able to finish his Business by the Evening,¹⁹ but as the Tide did not answer, I cou'd not get his Command on board that night, but I order'd the long Boats, &c, on shore, to be ready to bring them off, next morning by day-break.

24th. At 6 o'Clock in the morning, Capⁿ Maunsell return'd, on board, with all his Party.

29th. At 8 o'Clock in the Morning got under sail, having been detain'd ever since the 24th by contrary winds, & blowing weather; at 5 o'Clock in the afternoon, came to an anchor, at the mouth of the Salt Ponds River.

30th. At 7 o'Clock in the Morning made sail, & after having gone thro' the Passage²⁰ of the Tuskett Islands came to an Anchor at

17 — Morris' fleet was anchored about a mile and a half from the East Pubnico settlement, while the small settlement of West Pubnico, comprising these only two houses, was about a mile and a half below.

18 — At East Pubnico.

19 — At West Pubnico.

20 — Schooner Passage or Ellenwood Passage.

3 o'clock in the afternoon, at about five miles from the Point of Tobogue; I sent Capⁿ. Gorham that Evening, with 20 Rangers, & Mr. Bulkley the Pilot, in a whale-boat, to reconnoitre the entrance of Tobogue²¹ harbour, & to try if he could make any discovery;

Oct. 1st. At twelve o'Clock in the forenoon, Capⁿ Gorham returned, & reported that he had been at Tobogue, that he saw 7 or 8 houses, but all deserted, that he went on shore upon an Island,²² just near the Houses, where he found eleven sheep, which he brought off, with him; That he did not think it adviseable, to take the Ships into Tobogue Harbour, because the Channel was very narrow, & he sounded at high-water, & found but just three Fathom water; upon this report I sent back Capⁿ Gorham in the evening, with as many Rangers, (with 4 days provisions) as he could carry in the tow whale boats, & the next morning, I was to reinforce him with 2 sub^s., & 70 of the Regulars, with the same quantity, of provisions, & by the return of the boats, which were to carry the Regulars, he was to send me a Report, of what further discoveries, he shou'd make.

2d. At 7 o'clock in the morning, the Detachment to reinforce Capⁿ. Gorham went away, I order'd him that after having reconnoitred about Tobogue, if he should not find any prospect, of falling in with the Inhabitants, that he shou'd destroy all the Houses &c., & return on board again with his party;

4th. At two o'Clock in the afternoon, Capⁿ Gorham came on board, & told me that he had not met with any people; but that Capⁿ. Watmough, whom he had sent upon a discovering party, had return'd, just before he came away, & told him, that he had seen five Houses, but that they were at the other side of a Branch of the Sea;²³ Capⁿ. Gorham said the wind was contrary, & blew too fresh, to attempt going round Cape Forceu, where he imagined the houses were, but propos'd, that if the weather, shou'd become moderate, to take a Party, & destroy those houses on our way, to the River St. Johns; — Capⁿ Gorham then gave me the following Report.

“A Report of the Detachment sent up Tobogue River

	Burnt	
	Taken & de-	
	stroyed	
}	Houses with Chimneys	9
	Mass Houses	1
	Barns &c.	9
	Stacks of Hay	6

21 — Chebogue, the Theboc or Tebok of the Indians.

22 — Durkee Island, on which was the "Mass house" or chapel. See QUATORZIEME CAHIER of LA SOCIETE HISTORIQUE ACADIENNE, p. 172.

23 — Towards Cape Fourchu or Yarmouth.

{ Sheep	12
{ Potatoes, & Turnips, Bush ^{ls} . about	50
{ Canoes	6

Discovered by the different Parties sent out into the woods, & in boats, up the head of the River, Tracks of Men & Cattle, that have lately left the River,

“Jos. Gorham Capⁿ.
Rangers.

“Octr. 4th 1758

Major Morris
Of the 35th Reg^t. } Commanding Officer.”

I immediately gave directions to the Masters of the Transports to prepare to sail, but the wind continued contrary, & blew so fresh that we cou'd not attempt to put to Sea.

7th. In the afternoon the Weather being moderate Capⁿ Gorham desired that he might the next morning take a small party, & destroy the five houses above mentioned, & that if the wind shou'd come fair, that the Ships might lay too, off, Cape Forceu, where he wou'd come on board, & joyn us to which I consented.

8th. At 8 o'Clock in the Morning, Capⁿ Gorham left the Transports, & with the two whale-boats, went for Cape Forceu.

9th. A Quarter before Eight o'Clock in the Morning I received the following Letter by M^r. Bulkeley,

“Sir I but just found out & surprised a Village,²⁴ in a very remote part of the wood, where there is Monsieur Desinclot the Priest,²⁵ & nine familys, they are inclusive of men, women & children, sixty one, beside the Priest, two of that number are out hunting; They have discovered an adjacent family, which I have sent for, all which I purpose to secure as well as I can, Till I have further assistance from you which I doubt not, will be as speedy as possible, as the Priest tells me, there is with Six Indian family's, Twenty one more French Families, on this Coast, extending not further than the Tusket River, In all thirty six, with what I have taken, what Capⁿ Watmough discovered, was only Rocks at the mouth of the Harbour, I have secured all their arms, & ammunition, & purpose to keep the whole in the Mass House,²⁶ till reinforced,

“I need not tell you that the Ships, must come into the Cape Forceu Harbour, as soon as may be, but hope the whale-boat may

24 — Chegoggin, called further “Toboquet Village”.

25 — Father Jean-Baptiste Desenclaves.

26 — This “Mass house” or chapel, along with the cemetery, was located on a knoll which is not much more than a hundred feet west of Chegoggin River and about a hundred and fifty yards south of the road coming from Dayton. Tradition still prevailing here is that Indians also were buried on this hill.

be sent back directly, & a Reinforcement with the Schooner, or boats if they can come.

“ I am Sir, Y^r. Most obd^t. Serv^t.

“Jos. Gorham

“P.S. Since the above a woman & 6 children is come in.

“Toboquet Village, Oct^r. 8 Sunday 6 o'clock P.M. — I have about four miles to send to the boats.”

I immediately sent back the Whale-Boat with the following answer

“9th Oct^r. Monday Morning a quarter
past eight o'Clock

“Sir I have just this moment rec^d. your letter by M^r Bulkeley, I have manned the Whale Boat with 15 Men, & ordered her to go off immediately with this, I am geting the Schooner clear, & shall send her off to you, with M^r Bulkeley, & as many men as she can safely contain, & I hope she will be able to joyn you, some time today. The Ships shall proceed to Cape Forceu, as soon as possible;

“I am Sr. y^r. most h^{ble}. Serv^t.

“Roger Morris

“To Capⁿ Gorham—
Commanding a Party from
my Detachment”

As soon as the Schooner was got ready, I sent her off with the following Letter.

“Sir Whilst the Schooner was geting ready, I sent off the Whale-Boat with Serj^t. Eddy of your Company, & 15 Men, to let you know, I had received your letter by M^r. Bulkeley, & that the ships shou^d proceed to Cape Forceu, as soon as possible; This will be delivered to you by Capⁿ Watmough, who with L^t. Campbell of the Royal Americans, will joyn you with 55 Men, being the greatest number, M^r. Bulkeley will venture to take in the Schooner; I am extremely glad you have secured Monsieur Desenclot, whom you will please to acquaint, as also those Inhabitants you have already taken, that I shall retaliate upon them, any mischief that may hereafter be done to any of the command, I likewise expect M^r. Desenclot will inform you, where the rest of the Inhabitants are settled, whom you may assure, will meet with safety, as to their Lives, but in every other respect, are to be prisoners at Discretion, you'll likewise secure all the Cattle, & provisions of every kind, & upon no account suffer any of it to be wasted, & you are to allow the Inhabitants to have no more, than will subsist them, which you will order to be delivered out to them accordingly, & unless they will inform you, where they have laid up, their

Magazines, for the winter, I will immediately put them upon bread & water. You may depend upon it the very moment it is practicable, the Ships shall proceed to Cape Forceu; you will please to inform me, as soon as possible of your further proceedings, I have sent you in the Schooner two Barrells of Biscuit, which you will deliver out to your Party, in case you cannot do without it; unless you have particular service for the Schooner, you will please to send her back, that if the wind shou'd prevent the Ships from getting this day to Forceu we may send another Party on shore in her,

"I am Sir Y^r. most h^{ble}. Serv^t."

"Roger Morris
"Major to the 35th Reg^t."

"P.S. your Reinforcement has received Provisions for this day. — 9th Oct^r. 1758 on Board the Charles Transport, Monday Morning half an hour past nine o'Clock."

Oct. 10th, 1758. Made sail at eight o'Clock in the Morning, & came to an anchor in Cape Forceu Harbour, at two o'Clock in the afternoon, at ten o'clock at night, I gave my Letters for Col^l. Monckton, to Mr. Bulkeley, & ordered him to proceed with them in the Pilot Schooner, to the River St. Johns,²⁷ & to make all the Expedition he could.

11th. At ten o'clock in the Morning, I disembark'd, & march'd to Jigogan; the Village Capⁿ. Gorham had taken possession of; it was about 6 miles distant from where the Ships Anchor'd, but as the Weather was very bad, it was late in the afternoon before all the Detachment joyn'd me.

12th, 13th, 14th. Were Employed in securing the Vegetables, getting in Cattle from the woods, & sending off the sick men of the Rangers to Lunenburg, & in fitting out a Party of 120 Men, to march under the command of Capⁿ. Gorham, to the Village of Tuskett,²⁹ the Place where Monsieur Desenclares' chief residence was, & about 12 miles by Land from Jigogan.

15th. At 8 o'Clock in the Morning Capⁿ. Gorham March'd. His orders were to take as many of the Inhabitants as he cou'd, but if the houses were abandon'd, to immediately destroy all the Vegetables &c. when that was done, he was to detach a Party to de-

27 — To be delivered to Colonel Monckton. Given at the end of this Report.

28 — It could be that Gorham got to Chegoggin by water as at that time it was accessible from Yarmouth Harbour by canoes or at least flat-bottomed boats. ("Yarmouth, N.S.", by George S. Brown, Boston, 1888, p. 38).

29 — Dr. G. J. Farish of Yarmouth has left a description of the remains of this Acadian Village of Tuskett as he had found it during the first part of the last century. It was published in the Yarmouth Herald, July 8, 1858. "I used to take a melancholy pleasure in tracing out the well marked remains of another hamlet, compact and populous, as could be gathered from the number and contiguity of the cellars. It lay about 15 miles in the interior, at the head of Lake Vaughan, a little below the bridge over Reynard's Falls, on the west bank of the Tuskett (River), where the river enters the lake. They (the Acadians) had fled hither as to a city of refuge when they learnt that the sentence of transportation had passed upon them, and that they were to be forced from their homes where 'content had spread a charm'. Even the seclusion of this remote nook did not protect them; the sanctuary of this asylum was to be invaded. They were tracked out by their pursuers. . . ."

molish Popotet,³⁰ another French Settlement, about four Leagues from the Tusquets, Mr. Desenclares, not being able to march, I sent him, with a Party by Water, that he might inform Capⁿ. Gorham of the Number of Inhabitants thereabouts, & their particular Places of Residence.

18th. At half an hour after eleven o'Clock in the forenoon, The French Inhabitant, that Capⁿ. Gorham mentions in his Report of the 10th. Instant, to have sent with a Letter,³¹ return'd, & brought Letter No. (1) he said that he had been taken by three Indians, that it was with great difficulty he had made his escape from them, which was the occasion of his having been so long away.

19th. At half an hour past one in the afternoon, I received the following Letters from Capⁿ. Gorham, No. (2) (3) (4), & before I had finished my answers to them, I received Col. Monckton's Letter, dated St. Johns * * * * October 16th. 1758 No. (5).

20th. At Eleven o'Clock in the forenoon, I set out by water, to go to Capⁿ. Gorham,³² to concert, measures, for executing in the most expeditious manner, the fresh orders I had received from Col. Monckton.

21st. At 5 o'Clock in the Morning I arrived at Capⁿ Gorham's Quarters; after I had talked sometime with M^r. Desenclares, he wrote a Letter to the French Inhabitants (No. 6); I likewise order'd Capⁿ. Gorham to write one at the same time in English, (which M^r. Desenclares was to translate in French on the same paper) to acquaint them, that if they wou'd immediately surrender they shou'd be well treated, but if they did not, they wou'd be looked upon as Rebels, & Enemies, & treated as such, — That as an indulgence, I had allow'd their Priest to write to them, but they were not to expect any more intercourse of Letters,³³ I also told Capⁿ. Gorham, he was not to receive any Flags of Truce from them; Capⁿ. Gorham acquainted me, that he had sent an answer to the Letter No. (4) the Purport of which was, to acquaint the Inhabitants, that he cou'd pay no regard, to their applications to the Governor of Boston,³⁴ but that they must immediately surren-

30 — "Paponet" or Papoteg. Father Pacifique writes "Papgôgtag", ("Bulletin de la Société de Géographie de Québec", Vol. 28, nos. 1 & 2, — 1934 — p. 126). Rev. S. T. Rand gives "Bapokôtek". ("Micmac Place-Names" by Wm. P. Anderson, Ottawa, 1919, p. 18). It became "Pabbobteek" and then "Abuptic", still used during the last century to designate Argyle.

31 — Probably addressed to the other Acadians hiding in the woods, asking them to surrender.

32 — Who was at the Village of Tusket, where Father Desenclares had his chief residence.

33 — It is most probable that this exchange of letters between the English officers and the Acadians hiding in the woods were made by one of those who had been captured at Chegoggin. These Acadians would not refuse to receive one of their compatriots, whose return must have been guaranteed by threats of reprisal on members of his family if he decided to escape.

34 — This application, which the officers learnt about from one of the letters received from the Acadians in the woods, was a plea of these Acadians who faced with the prospect of a long winter ahead of them, wrote to Gov. Thomas Pownall of Massachusetts telling him that they would be his faithful subjects up to the hour of their death, if he deigned let them live anywhere in New England. Dated September 15, 1758, signed by Joseph Landry and Charles d'Entremont in the name of forty families, it was brought to Boston by a merchant of New England, Mark Haskell, who was imprisoned for dealing with the French Neutrals, as the Acadians were called at that time. The Governor of Massachusetts was deeply moved by this appeal which was examined by his Council December 4th. But the Council did not share the sentiments of the Governor. Finally Pownall forwarded the request to Lawrence, who ordered a third raid on Cape Sable, the one of 1759, when around the end of June 151 (or 152) Acadians were brought to Halifax where they stayed till November 10th, when they were sent to England and from there 147 of them arrived at Cherbourg, France, around the middle of January. (Mass. Archives, Council Records, Vol. 13, pp. 443-444. — Report concerning Canadian Archives for the Year 1905, Vol. II, Appendix A, Part III, p. 242 of App. J. in En. ed., p. 304 in Fr. ed.)

der to him, or expect to be treated as Rebels & Enemies; Capⁿ Gorham likewise reported to me, that one of the French Inhabitants whom he had taken as a Guide from Jigogan, & had sent out to look for Cattle, had met with four Indians, whom he knew; that they told him, they wanted to have Peace with the English, & to send a Message to the Governor of Nova Scotia, & in token of Peace they sent a Hatchet to the commanding Officer, — I told Capⁿ Gorham not to make any particular terms with them, but to send them word, that they might be assured, that any Message they shou'd send for the Governor of Nova Scotia, shou'd be safely delivered, — After having gevin Capⁿ Gorham's orders, to detach a Party to demolish Popoter,³⁵ & to be as expeditious as he cou'd in gathering the Vegetables, at the Place where he was, I returned to Jigogan, where I arrived at four o'clock in the afternoon, & in the Evening I wrote to Capⁿ Gorham the Letter No. (7).

26th. At half an hour after two o'Clock in the afternoon, Lieut. Conway delivered me the Letters, No. (8) & (9) from Capⁿ Gorham

27th. Sent the Effects belonging to the Inhabitants, on board Ship; — at half an hour after two o'Clock. — In the afternoon, Lieut. Paynton of the Royal Americans came in with a Party from Capⁿ Gorham, & gave me the Letter No. (10), with the inclosed Report.

28th. In the Morning, embark'd the French Women, & Children, on board the Alexander Transport, In the afternoon I received a Letter from Capⁿ Gorham acquainting me that he was arrived at Cape Forchü with the Boats, but that the Pilot Schooner, was still detained, by contrary wind in the Tusket Islands.

29th. After having destroy'd, the Houses, &c at Jigogan, I marched the Detachment, to Cape Forchü, & between four & five o'Clock in the afternoon, the whole were on board Ship; — as we were Embarking the Men, the Schooner appear'd off the Mouth of the Harbour, & came to an Anchor in the Evening.

30th. Was Employed in cleaning the Schooner, & making a distribution of the Cattle, & Vegetables.

35 — Morris' report does not give any detail with regard to this settlement of Poponet which Gorham destroyed during the week of October 22nd. We would have been happy to know if it was the one located at Argyle Head, on the property of the Nickerson family, on the hill where can still be seen three old cellars and the location of the chapel and of the cemetery. When Morris and his soldiers explored the previous month Argyle River, it does not seem that they went this far up the river; it will be remembered that Gorham who was to leave September 17th to explore this region with the whaleboats was prevented from doing so on account of the forenoon being "extremely rainy and foggy". The Pubnico settlements having been discovered on this same day, the exploration up the Argyle River was abandoned. There could have been some kind of establishment even higher on this river, according to Jackson Ricker, (op. cit., p. 8), who, (born in 1859), says he had heard many years ago from a Mr. Andrew landall, then an old man, that there were Acadians in the vicinity of the lake bearing his name and that they had built some kind of fortification on a small island in the southern end of the lake. It is to be noted that this region is about 9 miles southeast of Lake Vaughan or the Village of Tusket mentioned above, that is "about four Leagues from the Tuskets", as Morris said previously.

31st. Embark'd the Sick men of the Rangers, on board the Pilot Schooner, & gave the Master of the Alexander, his orders to proceed to Halifax with the very first fair wind, at the same time I gave him a Letter for the Commanding Officer of His Majesty's Troops at Halifax No. (11)

Cape Forchu Harbour

October 31st. 1758³⁶

Roger Morris, Major
to the (35) Regiment

Cape Forcheu Harbour Tuesday night
10th. October 1758.

Sir.³⁷

I have sent you inclos'd, a Journal of my Proceedings, since I left Halifax, by which you will find, that, till the 8th Instant, I had met with no Inhabitants, & had only destroyed some old Houses, &, which I believe had not been inhabited for some time before, agreeable to the verbal order, which you gave me, the morning I left Halifax, I have sent off the Pilot Schooner, to acquaint you of the number of French Inhabitants, I have already taken, consisting of 57, Men, Women & Children included — and by Cap^t. Gorham's Report, a copy of which is annexed; there are still 21 more Family's hereabouts, but whither they will surrender, or not is doubtful; at all events, I shall send parties, to destroy their Houses, & every thing else, that may be of service to them — We arrived here only this afternoon, & owing to the Tide, I cannot get on shore this night, but intend to disembark all my command tomorrow, & shall endeavour to make what use I can of Mr. Desenclats the Priest, who, by Captain Gorham's account to me, (from necessity I conclude) is very willing to be communicative; — Our people grow very sickly, & the Surgeon wishes it may not become epidemical, It began first with the Rangers, who have lost 5 men, & still it increases with them — At Captain Gorham's application; I have consented to his sending the Sick belonging to his Company consisting of 15, rank, & file, to Lunenburg, where he tells me, the Surgeon of his Company resides — I have just now call'd for a Return of our Provisions, & I find that on both Ships, I have not 14 days full allowance, for all my Command; I have therefore wrote to Cap^t. Wheelock, & inclos'd you a copy of My Letter, which I hope you will approve of — 'Tho' I have not had the Pleasure of being with you, yet I beg you will believe me when I assure you, with the greatest Truth, & Sincerity; that I hope you have met with all the success you

36 — These 68 Acadians with Father Desenclaves, having left Cape Fourchu on the 31st of October for Halifax, were to be kept here as prisoners for over two months, when they were carried to France with other Acadians on two cartel-ships. Those who survived this ordeal arrived at Le Havre, France, in February.

37 — Colonel Monckton, then at St. John River.

could have wished for — I shall be obliged to you if you will make my compliments to Colonel Fletcher, & the rest of the Gentlemen with you — I am sure you will not think my situation here so eligible, but that I shall be extremely impatient, till I receive your further orders —

I am Sir

Your Most Obedient

humble Servant

Roger Morris

LIVRES ACADIENS QUI VIENNENT DE PARAÎTRE:

Pineau, R. P. Wilfrid. Le clergé français dans l'île du Prince-Edouard, édition Ferland, 75 rue d'Auteuil, Québec 4, P. Q. \$2.00 l'exemplaire.

L'auteur nous dit dans son Avant-Propos: "L'objet de ce modeste travail est de mieux faire connaître le premier prêtre acadien de l'île du Prince-Edouard et ses prédécesseurs français, prêtres et évêques, qui ont implanté et conservé la foi dans ce petit coin de terre. Nous pouvons être fiers des chefs spirituels qui ont dirigé l'église dans ce pays avec tant de sagesse, l'ont illustrée par tant de vertus et l'ont préservée au prix de tant de sacrifices. . . Son second but est de signaler les principaux événements profanes et religieux, qui se sont déroulés pendant plus d'un siècle de notre histoire".

Ce livre est bien structuré et bien écrit. D'une lecture agréable, instructive et vivifiante, il est un des bons livres parmi ceux qui ont comme auteurs des Acadiens.

D'entremont, R. P. Clarence. Yarmouth, 350 years ago. Une conférence donnée devant les membres de la Yarmouth County Historical Society, 14 pages miméographiées qui traitent des noms historiques de cette région avec des aperçus nouveaux qui semblent solutionner certains problèmes historiques comme, par exemple, le site du fort Lomeron.

Du même auteur:

Histoire de Wedgeport, 1767-1967. 91 pages miméographiées sur l'histoire de cette paroisse de la région du Cap Sable; monographie intéressante par ses données historiques sur les familles pionnières, ainsi que par les faits vivants de la vie religieuse et civile de cette localité. On peut se procurer ces deux derniers volumes chez l'auteur à l'adresse suivante: 71 Centre St., Fairhaven, Mass. 02719, U.S.A.

La vieille maison acadienne de Dorchester ou Hickman House



Le 10e Cahier de la Société Historique Acadienne⁽¹⁾ nous apportait des considérations fort intéressantes au sujet d'une ancienne maison située dans la ville de Dorchester, N.-B. La tradition locale veut qu'elle ait été construite sous le régime français, au milieu du dix-huitième siècle. Quelques-uns voudraient y voir un comptoir ou magasin de traite, d'où l'appellation par les anglophones de la ville: "the old French trading post"⁽²⁾.

Afin de faire suite à cet article de M. Fensom, nous publions aujourd'hui une lettre que nous avons découverte pendant nos recherches effectuées au Fort Beauséjour. Cette lettre, adressée au Dr J. C. Webster, historien et philanthrope, par C. Gus. Chapman, nous fournit un autre point de vue de la tradition. Puisse-t-elle réveiller la curiosité des chercheurs afin que la lumière se fasse enfin sur l'histoire de cette maison, qui est probablement le plus ancien édifice du Nouveau-Brunswick.

Régis Brun

(1) Fenson, D. *The Old Acadian House of Dorchester*, S.H.A. 10e Cahier, Janvier 1966, p. 23.

(2) Propos recueillis à Dorchester en 1967.

Probate Court of West-
morland,

Dorchester, N. B.

4th August 1943.

Dr J C Webster,
Shediac.

Following is the local tradition re the "Hickman House"

The Fur Trade was a monopoly of the Throne of France and was granted to Court Favorites. Two and probably more Fur Freebooters from the English Colonies to the South are supposed to have established themselves in Dorchester and carried on an illicit fur trade with the Indians and French Settlers. One of these English Fur Traders is supposed to have built the "Hickman House" which my grandmother has told me, when she first remembered it, was constructed of large undressed blocks of stone and the masonry was very crude, it has narrow oblong slits for the window openings.

The property was afterwards acquired by the Weldons and improvements were made, then occupied by a man by the name of Kinnear who ran an inn there. My grandmother has told me that she remembers that it was known as "The Bell House" and that there was a large flat bell suspended over the front door and that it used to creak and rattle all night when the wind blew. The property was afterwards acquired by the late William Hickman who covered the rough masonry with cement, added a wooden addition and made other improvements.

The foregoing is Dorchester Tradition of the "Hickman House" and the early settlement by the English Fur Freebooters. How much is fact and how much is fancy of course I do not know as we have found it impossible to verify or prove false very much of it but we believe it to be basically true and like to believe that we have in the Village of Dorchester one of the earliest structures, still standing, in the Province of New Brunswick.

Yours very sincerely,
C Gus Chapman.

QUELQUES DOCUMENTS DU MUSÉE DU FORT BEAUSÉJOUR

par Régis Brun

Les archives du musée du Fort Beauséjour contiennent une variété de documents qu'à ma connaissance aucun amateur de la petite histoire acadienne du sud-est du Nouveau-Brunswick n'a consultés. Et le filon, faute de publicité, est peu exploité.

Je me permets d'attirer l'attention sur une série de documents historiques embrassant la période de 1755 à 1840, période capitale de la colonisation de cette région acadienne. Or on sait que les documents qui touchent à cette période sont pour la plupart éparpillés et souventes fois méconnus quant à leur importance.

Il reste que certaines familles anglo-saxonnes qui étaient en possession d'une bonne partie de cette documentation ont fait don de celle-ci aux archives de Fort Beauséjour. Voilà donc une nouvelle mine de renseignement mise à jour. Espérant ainsi aider les historiens et les généalogistes dans leurs recherches, je prends la liberté de mentionner, après recherches personnelles, les plus importants documents.

DOCUMENTS

A General Return of Families settled in the Township of Hillsborough — June 1783. (copie)

Relevé effectué en juin 1783 dans le canton d'Hillsborough (aujourd'hui le comté d'Albert, N.-B.). Ce document contient le nom d'Acadiens établis au village des Français (Coverdale), à cinq milles de Moncton. Les familles recensées sont les Babineau, Dubois, Gauvin, Goguen, Maillet, Thibodeau, etc. Le document est établi comme suit:

- (1) le nom du chef de famille et le nombre de personnes dans chaque famille
- (2) le cheptel de chacune des familles
- (3) les habitants du canton
- (4) ceux qui sont déménagés ailleurs.

Town Book of Hopewell, N. B. (photostat)
 (Records of the sessions of territory now known as Albert and Westmorland County, which were formerly united. Period represented 1786-1809. Parishes of Hillsborough, Monckton, Hopewell, Memramcook, Sackville, Botsford.)

Ce document comprend les archives des greffes du comté d'Albert et de Westmorland. On y trouve les nominations aux différentes fonctions du comté: **Assessors of Poor, Town-clerks, Constables, etc.** On y constate le peu de participation permise aux francophones au niveau administratif de ces comtés. Il contient aussi la liste des membres des jurés de 1786-1809.

Dorchester — A List of Inhabitants (Document original)
January 1803

Liste alphabétique des habitants de l'ancien canton de Dorchester, N.-B., où se trouvaient compris les villages suivants: Tédiche (Cap-Pelé), Barachois, Shediac, Petitcoudiac (Dieppe, St-Anselme), Memramcook et Dorchester. La liste comporte les noms de 114 chefs de familles acadiennes ainsi que le nombre d'enfants de plus et de moins de 10 ans.

A List of Inhabitants to be Assessed for (Document original)
Poor Rates in 1825, Shediac

Cette liste comprend les noms des chefs de familles des villages de Scoudouc, Shediac, Barachois et de l'Aboujagane. Ce document constitue l'évaluation des propriétés dans ces dits villages. Ce document est important puisque le premier recensement dans cette région ne date que de 1851.

A List of all male Inhabitants in the (Document original)
Parish of Shediac Liable to work statute Labour with their value for the
year 1837

Autre liste qui complète la précédente pour l'année 1837. Celle-ci comprend tout le canton de Shediac jusqu'au Cap-Pelé, ainsi que le village de Saint-André et celui d'Aboujagane.

Assessment roll for Memramcook Oct. 7 1786
for furnishing the court house and goal,
supporting prisoners and other county charges. (Document original)

Ce document comprend le nom de 44 chefs de familles acadiennes. Celles-ci sont sans doute les familles fondatrices de

la paroisse de Memramcook. Plusieurs de celles-ci, l'année suivante (soit en 1787), quittèrent le lieu pour aller fonder les villages de Bouctouche, Richibouctou, St-Louis, ou s'établir dans d'autres villages tels que Barachois, Grand'Digue, Cocagne, etc. De ce document nous donnons la copie complète.

“John Keillor and Samuel Taylor, Assessers”

	Sh
Petter Sonea (iPerre Saulnier)	2
Petter White (Pierre LeBlanc)	5
Petter Como (Pierre Comeau)	3
Simon White (Simon LeBlanc)	5
Joseph Bro (Breau)	5
Charles Sonea (Saulnier)	2
Charles White (LeBlanc)	4
Petter White (Pierre LeBlanc)	3
Joseph Reshaw (Richard)	3
Michal Boork (Michel Bourg)	5
Victore Leblong (Victor LeBlanc)	4
Joseph Depuy (Dupuis)	5
John Landery (Jean Landry)	5
Joseph White (LeBlanc)	4
Nero(?) Landery (René Landry)	5
Benjamin Busway (Bourgeois)	2
Petter Reshaw (Pierre Richard)	3
Nero(?) Reshaw (René Richard)	5
Oliver Budrow (Olivier Boudreau)	5

Brought Over

Paul Babino (Babineau)	2
Basil Reshaw	5
Joseph Lejare (Léger)	4
Joseph Reshaw	5
Michael Reshaw (Michel Richard)	5
John Reshaw	5
Jock Legere (Jacques Léger)	5
Petter Legere (Pierre Léger)	5
Joseph Reshaw	5
John Goodey (Jean Gaudet)	3
John Cr Pet(?)	5
Don Jacques (Joseph Granger)	5
Petter Gooday (Pierre Gaudet)	5
Bona Leblong (Bonaventure LeBlanc)	3
Joseph Leblong	4
Battiot Gooday (Jean-Baptiste Gaudet)	5
Charles White (LeBlanc)	3
Petter Bellevo (Pierre Belliveau)	3

Joseph Jerway (J. Girouard)	5
Michael Bastrach (Michel Bastarache)	2
Zodore Bastarache (Isidore)	3
Joseph Bastrach	4
Joseph Landery (Landry)	4
Petter Case (Pierre Casey)	5
Joseph Case	5

Total Sum
10 12 10

La "Fête des petits oiseaux"

Pour faire suite à un article paru dans le 16e cahier de la S.H.A. sur la "Fête des petits oiseaux", voici un document tiré des archives de l'Archevêché de Québec. Il n'y est pas spécifiquement fait mention de la "Fête des petits oiseaux", mais étant donné la coïncidence de temps (Quasimodo) et de lieu (Memramcook), nous croyons fortement qu'il s'agit du même événement. Ceci pourra donc compléter l'article déjà paru.

Régis Brun

Memramkook 27 Janvier 1829.

Monseigneur

(. . .) J'an viens à l'objet principal de cette lettre. Il s'agit, Monseigneur, d'une Fête qui se célèbre dans nos missions tous les ans, le lendemain de la Quasimodo. La tradition rapporte qu'elle fut établie dans l'ancienne Acadie en reconnaissance d'un bienfait miraculeux et d'un avantage général pour tout cet ancien pays. Ils promirent dès lors, de sanctifier ce jour comme le Dimanche, d'y faire chanter une grande messe, à laquelle les missionnaires ont coutume d'ajouter l'Office de vêpres. Il n'existe plus aucun de ceux qui firent alors le voeu; mes paroisiens me demandent souvent, s'ils sont obligés eux mêmes d'accomplir cette promesse, si ce seroit un péché pour eux de travailler ce jour là, et je ne sais que leur répondre. Je soumets ce cas à votre grandeur, la priant de me répondre à quoi je dois m'entendre sur ce point.

J'ose me sous ?

de Voter Grandeur

le très humble et très
obéissant Serviteur

C. Gauvreau, PM " (1)

(1) Gauvreau, C. à Mgr. Panet, Memramkook, 27 janvier 1829,
Archives Archevêché de Québec, N. B. 111-115

LISTE DE NOUVEAUX MEMBRES:

No.	Nom	Adresse
366	Mlle Marie-R. Belliveau,	Watertown, Mass.
367	M. Jean Daigle,	Moncton.
368	M. Frank-A. Bauckman,	Newton, Lower-Falls, Mass.
369	Soeur Jérôme, P.S.S.F.,	Sherbrooke, P. Qué.
370	M. Jean-Louis Robichaud,	Lower-Saulnierville, N.-E.
371	Mlle M.-Audet-Purcell,	West-Newton, Mass.

SOCIÉTÉ HISTORIQUE ACADIENNE**Rapport Financier**

ANNÉE AU 31 OCTOBRE 1967

Fonds Général

	Reporté au 31 octobre 1966		\$ 228.60
Recettes	Cotisations (1)	\$ 1,870.69	
	Subvention (2)	1,000.00	2,870.69
		<hr/>	<hr/>
			\$3,099.29
Déboursés	Cahiers nos 13, 14 & 15 (3)	\$ 1,323.90	
	Timbres, papeterie et articles divers	286.41	1,624.46
	Frais de change	14.15	1,624.46
		<hr/>	<hr/>
			<u>\$1,474.83</u>

Actif du Fonds Général au 31 octobre 1967

Dépôt en Banque	\$ 1,454.98	
Encaisse Secrétariat	19.85	<u>\$1,474.83</u>

Fonds Permanent

	Reporté au 31 octobre 1966		\$ 448.76
	Dons	\$ 164.33	
	Intérêts	13.77	178.10
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	Solde du compte épargne spécial en banque		<u>\$ 626.86</u>

Notes:

- (1) Pour être conforme à nos règlements, une proportion de ces recettes devait être versée au "Fonds Permanent" et l'entrée comptable a été faite après fermeture pour la somme de \$122.18
- (2) Subvention provenant de la Province du Nouveau-Brunswick et désignée aux fins de nos opérations courantes.
- (3) Les frais de publication de notre cahier numéro 16, \$380.00 seront payables en novembre 1967.

A. Y. Melanson,
Trésorier.

SECRETARIAT DE
LA SOCIÉTÉ HISTORIQUE ACADIENNE
SEC. M. GÉRARD DESJARDINS
CASE POSTALE 1032, MONCTON, N.-B.

La Société Historique Acadienne

~~~~~  
DIX-HUITIÈME CAHIER  
~~~~~

Vol. II, no 8



JANVIER, FÉVRIER, MARS 1968

MONCTON, N.-B.

La Société Historique Acadienne

~~~~~  
DIX-HUITIÈME CAHIER  
~~~~~

Vol. II, no 8



JANVIER, FÉVRIER, MARS 1968

MONCTON, N.-B.

LA SOCIÉTÉ HISTORIQUE ACADIENNE

COTISATION: Janvier à décembre 1968

Individus	\$5.00
Bibliothèque et institutions	\$7.50
Membre à vie	100.00

Prix des Cahiers déjà parus \$2.00 l'unité
Escompte de 20% pour la collection complète

S'adresser au secrétariat: Case Postale 1032, Moncton, N.-B.

COMITÉ EXÉCUTIF élu à l'assemblée générale du 12 décembre 1967

Présidente	Mme Léone Boudreau-Nelson
Vice-Président	M. Gilbert Finn
Secrétaire	M. Gérard Desjardins
Secrétaire-adjoint	M. Ronald LeBlanc
Trésorier	M. Alphonse Melanson
Animateur	Père Anselme Chiasson
Publiciste	M. Bernard Poirier
Vérificateur	M. Rodolphe LeBlanc
Conseillers	Dr Dominique Gauthier, de Shippagan R. P. Clarence d'Entremont, de Fairhaven, Mass. M. Jean Daigle, prof. d'histoire à l'université de Moncton.
Publiciste élu par l'exécutif —	M. Bernard Poirier.

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Le Ministère des Postes, à Ottawa, a autorisé l'affranchissement en numéraire et l'envoi comme objet de deuxième classe de la présente publication.

Entre Nous

Les élections

L'assemblée générale de la Société Historique Acadienne du 12 décembre dernier a élu ses officiers pour l'année 1968. Je crois que la Rédaction doit se faire l'interprète de tous les membres pour féliciter les nouveaux élus ou réélus et surtout les remercier d'avoir bien voulu accepter, quelques-uns pour un quatrième terme, une tâche bénévole, souvent plus onéreuse qu'honorifique. A en croire certaines voix irresponsables qui ne peuvent se faire valoir qu'en détruisant les autres, tous les chefs de toutes les Associations acadiennes S'AGRIPPENT à leurs postes et aux honneurs qu'ils comportent, sans rien accomplir cependant ou à peu près rien. Affirmation gratuite, mensongère et malicieuse. Notre Présidente par exemple—et ce que nous disons d'elle vaut également pour d'autres présidents que nous connaissons—notre Présidente, disons-nous, n'a accepté de se laisser réélire qu'à son corps défendant, sur la demande instante et réitérée de ceux qui s'intéressent à la vie progressive de la S.H.A. Un coup d'oeil sur les activités de la Société en 1967, dont notre Présidente a été l'âme et la cheville ouvrière, montre avec évidence la chance qu'a notre Société de bénéficier des talents et de la générosité d'un tel chef.

Nous sommes heureux de saluer la présence sur le nouveau Conseil, du R. P. Clarence d'Entremont de Fairhaven, qui en plus de la vie qu'il apporte au groupe de la Nouvelle-Angleterre, collabore de façon si généreuse à la production des Cahiers; M. Jean Daigle, professeur d'histoire d'Acadie à l'université de Moncton; M. Ronald LeBlanc, conservateur des Archives Acadiennes de la même université; enfin, notre nouveau vérificateur, M. Rodolphe LeBlanc, comptable.

Contenu de ce Cahier

Ce dix-huitième Cahier contient un document important qui légitimerait à lui seul toute une publication. C'est le récit détaillé d'un témoin oculaire du drame de 1758 où 700 Acadiens déportés de l'île Saint-Jean en France sombrèrent dans l'Atlantique. Il est regrettable que l'auteur du livre REMARKABLE VOYAGES AND SHIPWRECKS où ce document a été puisé n'indique pas la provenance du manuscrit dont il s'est servi. Des recherches au "Public Office Record" à Londres se sont avérées vaines⁽¹⁾. Il semble bien que la critique interne du document ainsi que de nombreux témoignages corroborants enlèvent à peu près tout doute sur son authenticité. Ainsi, dans les Archives de l'Amirauté à Londres (Admiralty, Adj't-General, Misc. Various. Vol. 1), on trouve que le

(1) Lettre de M. Biggar à Francis J. Audet des Archives d'Ottawa, 20 mai 1921. Arch. Acadiennes de l'université de Moncton. Papiers Placide Gaudet 16-8.

bateau VIOLET "was supposed to be lost on 12 december 1758" tandis que le Duke William "was lost 13 december 1758"⁽²⁾.

La Louisiane acadienne vient de fonder à son tour une société historique, ATTAKAPAS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, dont le Père Clément Cormier, c.s.c. nous parle avec éloges dans ce Cahier. À tous les fondateurs, à tous les membres et au Conseil de cette nouvelle Société soeur, la Société Historique Acadienne offre un salut tout fraternel et exprime, avec ses félicitations, ses voeux d'un succès toujours grandissant.

Hommage à deux grands Acadiens disparus

La S.H.A. vient de perdre deux membres éminents et l'Acadie deux grands hommes: le Frère Antoine Bernard décédé le 14 décembre 1967 et Henri Blanchard le 15 janvier 1968.

Le premier a publié quinze volumes, la plupart consacrés à l'histoire acadienne, sans compter un nombre incalculable d'articles dans les revues et les journaux et de conférences. D'un style coulant, facile, élégant (peut-être un peu ampoulé dans les premiers volumes), son oeuvre historique en est une de vulgarisation plutôt que le résultat de recherches approfondies dans les archives. Il a le grand mérite d'avoir mis à notre portée de façon claire et attachante notre histoire des XVII^e et XVIII^e siècles et celui d'être le seul à avoir écrit notre histoire contemporaine, celle qu'il a vécue et celles de ses proches devanciers. Et cette oeuvre prend une valeur de témoin. La somme de ses oeuvres et la qualité littéraire de celles-ci font du Frère Bernard non seulement l'historien mais aussi, et de beaucoup, le plus grand écrivain de l'Acadie⁽³⁾.

M. Henri Blanchard fut une des figures les plus attachantes non seulement de l'île du Prince-Edouard mais aussi de l'Acadie. Toute sa vie, cet homme s'est intéressé à l'histoire des Acadiens. Aussi avait-il réussi à se monter une riche collection d'archives sur le sujet, registres, manuscrits, papiers de toutes sortes. Il a lui-même écrit quatre livres sur l'histoire des Acadiens de l'île. Modèle de citoyen et de patriote, son exemple fut une inspiration pour ses concitoyens, et, espérons-le, continuera de l'être pour nous tous.

Congrès National de France-Canada et journée acadienne

On sait à quel point l'association France-Canada (et sa commission de l'Acadie) travaille efficacement à faire connaître le Canada français et l'Acadie à la France, quels contacts elle établit entre les francophones du Canada et les Français, quels services

(2) Lettre de Biggar, l.c.

(3) Nous ne saurions trop recommander la lecture de sa biographie, écrite par l'abbé Michel Le Moignan en 1966 (Les Editions Gaspésiennes, Gaspé, P. Qué.)

elle rend, surtout aux premiers! Tous les ans, cette association tient un grand Congrès National dans une ou l'autre des grandes villes de France. Cette année, il aura lieu à Poitiers les 30 et 31 mars prochain et le lendemain, premier avril, la journée sera consacrée aux Acadiens. Poitiers est un des chefs-lieux de cette région d'où sont venus nos ancêtres acadiens et où, tout près, plusieurs familles acadiennes se sont établies après la Déportation. Nous sommes reconnaissants à France-Canada pour cette délicatesse d'avoir pensé à nous et de nous y inviter. Espérons que plusieurs Acadiens pourront répondre à une si aimable invitation. Ceux qui voudraient et pourraient s'y rendre sont priés de s'adresser au Secrétariat de la Société Historique Acadienne.

MGR AUSTIN BURKE

Le 6 février dernier, la Délégation Apostolique annonçait la nomination au siège épiscopal de Yarmouth du Révérend Père Austin Burke, curé de Chezzetcook-ouest depuis 1960.

L'ancêtre du nouvel évêque était Frédéric Burke (fils de John Burke et de Mary Riguelan) qui, venu d'Halifax, fut adopté par Charles à Victor Babin de Sluice-Point dans la paroisse de la Butte-des-Amirault. Frédéric épousa lui-même en 1828 une Babin et depuis lors, tous ses descendants sont Acadiens. La mère du nouvel évêque était elle-même une Babin (notes du Père Clarence d'Entremont).

Mgr Burke "est né à la Pointe du Sault, comté de Yarmouth, le 11 janvier 1922. Il a fait ses études classiques au Collège Sainte-Anne, ses études théologiques au grand séminaire Saint-Coeur de Marie, Halifax, et fut ordonné prêtre le 25 mars 1950 par Mgr Berry" (Le Petit Courrier, 8 fév. 1968).

Les Directeurs et les membres de la Société Historique Acadienne prient Mgr Burke d'agréer leurs voeux de félicitations et de respect et l'expression des sentiments de joie qui les animent en cette occasion.

La Rédaction

REMARKABLE VOYAGES & SHIPWRECKS

Being a popular collection of extraordinary and authentic sea narratives relating to all parts of the globe by GEORGE WINSLOW BARRINGTON, author of "The Great Arctic Explorers" & illustrated

London, Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent & Co
Glasgow: Thomas D. Morison.

(Présentation, par le PÈRE ANSELME CHIASSON, cap.)

Voici un livre rare qui fut longtemps cherché par M. Warburton de Charlottetown et par les Archives Publiques d'Ottawa, comme le prouve la correspondance entre cet écrivain et les Archives⁽¹⁾. Aujourd'hui, les Archives d'Ottawa, la bibliothèque du Musée de Saint-Jean, N.-B. et la bibliothèque du Parlement d'Halifax en possèdent un exemplaire, pour ne mentionner que ceux-là.

Ce livre de 432 pages contient le récit de nombreux naufrages. Un seul touche à l'histoire acadienne, mais il est d'un intérêt palpitant; c'est celui des bateaux *Duke William* et *Violet* qui transportaient de l'île Saint-Jean en France, le premier 300 Acadiens et le deuxième 400, et qui sombrèrent dans l'Atlantique avec leur cargaison humaine en décembre 1758.

Tout le monde sait qu'à la chute de Louisbourg en 1758, l'île du Cap-Breton et l'île Saint-Jean tombaient aux mains des Anglais. Malgré les supplices des Acadiens de l'île Saint Jean demandant la permission de demeurer sur leurs terres, leur déportation fut décrétée et, pour l'exécuter rapidement, on les expédia en France sur des bateaux de fortune. La saison était déjà avancée et la traversée dangereuse. "L'honorable Brooke Watson parle, en une lettre au Révérend Dr Andrew Brown, de 1,300 Acadiens qui sombrèrent ainsi"⁽²⁾ dans l'Atlantique. De multiples auteurs font allusion à ce drame, citent le capitaine Niles qui en donne quelques détails⁽³⁾, mais personne ne semble posséder des connaissances précises sur tout cela. L'abbé H. R. Casgrain lui-même pense que ces bateaux se perdirent en 1764⁽⁴⁾ et se demande si le missionnaire à bord du *Duke William* n'était pas l'abbé de Biscaret⁽⁵⁾.

Le document qui suit est donc d'une importance capitale par la lumière qu'il projette sur cet événement. C'est un journal de bord, fait au jour le jour sur le *Duke William*. Après l'avoir lu, on ne peut s'empêcher d'être du sentiment de M. A. B. Warburton⁽⁶⁾, l'historien de l'île du Prince-Edouard, qui en attribue la paternité à M. Nicholls, le capitaine du bateau. Les détails qui le

1. Copies aux Archives Acadiennes de l'Université de Moncton. Papiers Placide Gaudet.

2. Lauvrière, Emile. *La Tragédie d'un Peuple*, nouv. éd. revue et complétée, T.2. p.65.

3. *Nova Scotia Hist. Soc.*, 11, p. 148.

4. *Un Pèlerinage au pays d'Évangéline*, 2e éd. Québec 1888, p. 312.

5. *Une Seconde Acadie*, Québec 1894, note 1, p. 353.

6. Lettre à M. François J. Audet des Arch. Publiques d'Ottawa, 23 juin 1921.

concernent personnellement sont trop nombreux et trop continus pour que le récit ne vienne pas de lui. Ce capitaine s'était sauvé, avec son équipage et l'abbé Girard, sur les bateaux de sauvetage.

Quant à l'authenticité de la relation, le compilateur qui l'a publiée, M. George Winslow Barrington, nous rassure plusieurs fois. En plus du sous-titre du volume où il l'affirme, il y revient dans la Préface: "The accounts here given are all authentic and yet. . . absolutely unsurpassed by any sea tales of imagination that have ever been written". Puis, comme l'écrivait M. Warburton(7): "les faits s'accordent avec ce que nous en savons par ailleurs", avec le témoignage du capitaine Niles(8) et celui de l'abbé Girard lui-même. Une lettre de ce dernier qui raconte à l'abbé de l'Isle-Dieu le drame auquel il a échappé est particulièrement intéressante et instructive. Elle complète le journal ou, du moins, en corrobore les données. C'est pourquoi, à la suite du récit du capitaine Nicholls, nous publions de cette lettre les extraits qui concernent cet événement, ainsi que les extraits d'une autre au Marquis de Pérusse.

LOSS OF THE DUKE WILLIAM ON THE ATLANTIC OCEAN

The Duke William having been ordered to Cork, under convoy of the York man of war, Captain Hugh Piggot, to take in soldiers for America, lost the man of war and the other ships by means of a fog, which thickened just as they came near the Irish coast. . .

The Duke William having proceeded to Halifax arrived there safe; and from thence went to besiege Louisbourg. . .

On the reduction of Louisbourg, the island of St. John, in the entrance to the Gulf of St. Lawrence, fell by capitulation, and the inhabitants were to be sent to old France. Lord Rollo with a large party were sent on board the transports, which were ordered thither for that purpose. The transports were nine in number, of which the Duke William was one. They proceeded under convoy of the Hind sloop of war, Captain Bond, but meeting with contrary winds and bad weather, had a long passage. . .

A large party of soldiers having been ordered up the country to bring the inhabitants down on board the different transports, as the Duke William was the largest used, the missionary priest (who was the head man of the country), with the principle inhabitants, were ordered by the Lord Rollo, to go to France with Captain Nicholls. On his arrival, he requested the favour, that the people might come on board to mass, and to be married. Captain Nicholls told him he had no objection, on condition that he

7. Warburton, l.c.

8. Nova Scotia Hist. Soc., II, l'c.

had a fee of every bride. Being asked what he demanded as a fee, the captain replied—the first kiss after she was married. The priest being a facetious man complied; and they had a great many marriages, as a notion prevailed among the crew, that all single men would be made soldiers.

Having got a great abundance of stock, they all sailed from St. John's together; Captain Wilson, with Lord Rollo, and some soldiers on board, and Captain Moore with soldiers, under convoy of the Hind. Captain Moore's vessel was lost going through the Gut, by striking on a rock under water, and the soldiers were put on board Captain Wilson, bound to Louisbourg. Captain Moore, his son, mate, and carpenter, took their passage in the Duke William.

As the wind was contrary, they lay in the Gut of Canso some time. The French used frequently to go on shore, and remain there all night, making fires in the wood to keep themselves warm. Some of them desired that they might be allowed muskets to shoot game, as they were not afraid of meeting with the Indians, which Captain Nicholls granted. About three hours after they were gone, one of them came running, and begged that the captain with his people would go immediately on board, as they had met with a party of Indians who were coming down to scalp them. Accordingly, Captain Nicholls, with the other masters and sailors, went off, and had but just got on board before the Indians came down; but, finding only Frenchmen, they went away directly.

November 25th, they sailed out of the Bay of Canso, with a strong gale at N.W., Captains Nicholls, Henry, Beaton, Dobson, Suggest, Whitby, and Kelsy, agreed to make the best of their way to France with the people, and not to go to Louisbourg, as it was a very bad time of the year to beat upon that coast. Captain Nicholls was appointed to lead the fleet. They took leave of the agent, who was bound to Louisbourg.

The third day after they had been at sea, it blew a storm in the night, being thick with sleet, and very dark. The transport parted company with three ships of the fleet. The storm still continuing, in a day or two she parted with the rest. The Duke William continued in very good order, and though the sea ran mountains high, went over it like a bird, and made no water.

On the 10th of December they saw a sail, which proved to be the Violet, Capt. Suggest. On coming up, Capt. Nicholls inquired how all on board were; he replied, in a terrible situation, they had a great deal of water in the ship, her pumps were choked and he was much afraid that she would sink before morning. Captain Nicholls begged of him to keep up his spirits, and he would, if it were possible, stay by him, and spare him a pump, which he got out of the Parnassus. He also told him, that as the

gale lasted so long he was in hopes that it would moderate after twelve o'clock; but, unfortunately, it rather increased.

At changing the watch at twelve, Captain Nicholls found that they went fast a-head of the *Violet*, and that, before morning, if they did not shorten sail they would run her out of sight. While scudding under the fore-sail and treble-reefed main-sail, he consulted with Captain Moore and their mate, what was best to be done; and it was unanimously considered necessary that the main-top-sail should be taken in, as the only way to save their lives was by keeping them company till the weather should moderate. Accordingly they took in the main-to-sail, and got their three pumps ready in case of necessity. They had forced the spare pump down the after hatch-way, and shipped into an empty butt, of which the French had brought several on board for the purpose of washing. They aired them with spun yard, to bail in case of need. They now thought that the *Violet* gained on them; and at four o'clock, to their great satisfaction, they saw her very plainly.

On changing the watch, they found the *Duke William* still very tight and going well, the carpenter assuring the captain there was no water to strike a pump. Being very tired with walking the deck so long, Captain Nicholls thought he might go down and indulge himself with a pipe of tobacco; he told the mate to acquaint him immediately should there be any alteration. They had driven the board next the lower part of the pump to see how much water was in the well; and every half hour, when the ball was struck, the carpenter went down. As he had yet found no water, Captain Nicholls entertained no apprehensions of the safety of the *Duke William*; he was only concerned at present for the *Violet*.

Soon after the captain had filled and lighted his pipe, while sitting in the state room, he was thrown from the chair by a blow which the ship received from a terrible sea. He sent the boy to ask the mate (Mr. Fox) whether anything was washed over. The mate sent word that all was safe, and that he saw the *Violet* coming up fast.

Being still very much fatigued, the captain thought he would try to get a little sleep to refresh himself; and without pulling off his clothes, he threw himself on the side of the bed. Before he had closed his eyes, Mr. Fox came and told him that the carpenter had found the water above the keelson, and that the ship must certainly have sprung a leak. The captain immediately arose and took the carpenter with him into the hold, and, to his great surprise found the water roaring in dreadfully. On examination, he found it was a butt started, and the more they endeavoured to press anything to stop it, the more the plank forsook the timber. They then went on deck to encourage the people at the pumps.

Captain Nicholls had made a mark with a piece of chalk to see how the water gained upon them. Finding their case desperate, he went to all the Frenchmen's cabins and begged of them to rise: telling them, that though their lives were not in danger, their help at the pumps was highly essential. They immediately got up, and cheerfully assisted.

By this time it was daylight, when, to their great surprise and concern, they saw the Violet on her broadside, a little distance from them; and the fore-yard broken in the slings, the fore-top-sail set, and her crew endeavouring to free her of the mizen-mast, as it appeared she had just then broached to, by the fore-yards giving way. It came on a most violent squall for ten minutes, and when it cleared up, they found, to their great and deep concern, that the poor unfortunate Violet, with near four hundred souls, was gone to the bottom. This fatal disaster shocked even the stoutest on board the Duke William; especially as a similar fate was now threatening them.

All the tubs before mentioned, were now got together and made gangways, the Frenchmen and women, who behaved with uncommon resolution, assisting. They then opened all the hatches, and as the water flowed fast into the hold, they filled the tubs and hauled them up, and turned them over the combings on the upper deck, which, with three pumps constantly at work, and baling out of the gun-room scuttle, must have vented a large quantity of water. A seam would not have hurt them, but a butt's end was more than they could manage; however, every method was tried which was thought of service. They quilted the sprit-sail with oakum and flax, with one of the top-gallant-sails in the same manner, to see whether anything would suck into the leak to stop it, but all in vain.

They continued in this dismal situation three days; the ship, notwithstanding their endeavours, full of water, and expected every minute to sink. The captain had given all the liquor that was left on board to the people, and all the provisions; the hold being full of water, and the ship swimming only by the decks being buoyed up with empty casks.

About six o'clock on the fourth morning, the people came to the captain and declared they had done all in their power; that the vessel was full of water; and that it was in vain to pump any more. The captain told them he was convinced that what they said was too true, and complimented them upon their attention and exertion. He then acquainted the priest with their situation, assuring him that every method for saving the ship and the lives of the people had been resorted to in vain, and that they expected the decks would blow up every moment. The priest appeared confused; but immediately went to give his people absolution; and a melancholy scene ensued. Strong, hearty, and healthy men,

looking at each other, with tears in their eyes, bewailing their unhappy condition, and preparing for death.

Captain Nicholls now walked upon the deck with Captain Moore, desiring him to think, if he could, of some expedient to avert their destruction. Captain Moore, with tears in his eyes, confessed that he knew of no method. Captain Nicholls proposed hoisting out the boats, that in case a ship should appear, they might save their lives, as the gale was more moderate. Captain Moore thought it would be impossible, as everyone would endeavour to get into them. The former captain, however, called his mates, carpenters, and men, and proposed getting their boats out, at the same time acquainting them that it was to save if possible, every soul on board, and that in case any person was to be so rash as to insist upon going into the boats, besides those who he should think proper, he would immediately punish such person. They all solemnly declared that his commands should be as implicitly obeyed as if the ship were in her former good condition—a rare instance of obedience and submission.

The captain then went and acquainted the head prisoner whom they had on board, with what they were going to attempt. He was a hundred and ten years old, was the father of the whole island, and had a number of children, grandchildren, and other relations on board. He assured the captain that he and his fellow-prisoners would assist him in anything he proposed, and the captain in return assured them that he would run the same chance with them, and never desert them.

Captain Nicholls now asked Mr. Fox and the carpenter if they were willing to venture in the long-boat; they answered bravely that they were; for whether they died in the vessel or a mile or two farther was a matter of very little consequence; and, as there was no prospect but death if they stayed, they would willingly make the attempt. The captain then proposed to Captain Moore, the carpenter, and mate, their going into the cutter, which they also agreed to. As the sea was too high to lower the boats into the water with the runners and tackles, the captain told them his people should get the cutter over the side, and have a proper painter made fast to her before she dropped into the water; and that they should have two axes to cut the runners and tackles when they should think the most convenient time. They accordingly got the cutter over the sides; and the ship lying pretty quiet, they cut the tackles, and she dropped into the water very well, and the painter brought her up. They went then to work with the long-boat. Day-light now raised their spirits, and the weather was tolerably moderate. The mate and carpenter cut the runners, and the long-boat fell into the water as well as the cutter had done; and having a proper painter made fast, she brought up extremely well.

There were people at the fore and main-top-mast heads to look out for a sail, when, to their unspeakable joy, the man at the main-top-mast head cried out that he saw two ships, right astern, making after them. Captain Nicholls went and acquainted the priest and old prisoner with the good news. The latter took him in his aged arms and cried for joy. The captain then ordered the ensign to be hoisted to the main-top-mast shrouds, and to get the guns all clear to fire. It was very hazy, and the ships were not far from them when they discovered them first.

As soon as they hoisted their signal of distress, they hoisted English colours, and seemed to be West Indiamen, of about three or four hundred tons. They kept loading and firing as fast as possible, when they perceived that they spoke each other; and setting their fore-sail and top-sails they hauled their wind and made from them. Captain Nicholls, imagining that the bigness of the vessel, and her having so many men on board, it being war time, might occasion a distrust, ordered the main-mast to be cut away, to undeceive them. They had people all the time at the shrouds to cut away in case of necessity. One of the shrouds not being properly cut, checked the mainmast, and brought her up right athwart the boats. Captain Nicholls run aft himself and cut both the boat's painters, or else they would have been stove to pieces, and sunk immediately. A dismal thing to be obliged to cut away the only thing that could be the means of saving their lives, and afterwards to see the ships basely desert them! Driven from the greatest joy to the utmost despair, death now appeared more dreadful. They had only the fore-sail hanging in the brails, and the braces of both preventers being rendered useless by the falling off of the mainmast, and the yard flying backwards and forwards, by the rolling of the ship, they were fearful she would overset entirely.

They ran from the boats till they could but just see them; and finding that they did not endeavour to join them, though they had each oars, fore-mast, and fore-sail, Captain Nicholls consulted with the boatswain on the best measures to be adopted in their deplorable situation. The captain thought, that at all events, they should bring the ship to, though he confessed it a terrible attempt to hazard her upsetting. The boatswain said it appeared too hazardous, as the vessel steered very well. However, finding the men in the boats did not attempt to join them, the captain called all the people aft and told them his resolution. They declared it was desperate, but so was their condition, and that they were ready to do whatever he thought best. Captain Moore disapproved of the measure. Captain Nicholls then acquainted the priest, the old gentleman, and the rest of the people, with his intentions, and the motives for them. They were all pleased to say, let the consequence be what it would, they should be satisfied that he had acted for the best, they were therefore resigned to what might happen. This was a dreadful crisis; and

great were Captain Nicholl's feelings when about doing that, which, though in his own judgment was right, might be the means of sending four hundred persons to eternity. His resolution, however, did not forsake him.

He persevered, and gave orders to bring the ship to. In hauling out the mizen, which had been greatly chafed, it split. They then got a new stay-sail, and bent it to bring her to, which had the desired effect, though it was a long time before this was accomplished, and they were once afraid that they should be obliged to cut away the fore-mast, by a large sea striking on her star-board quarter. The next sea hove her to, and she stayed very well. When they saw, from the yawl, that she was lying to for them, they shipped their fore-mast, and ran them on board. As there was too much wind and a large sea, to sprit the sail, they came on board, holding their sheets in their hands. As soon as she came, Captain Nicholls sent some men into her to row and fetch the long-boat. They soon joined her, got her foremast up, and set sail, as did the cutter; and, to their great joy, came safe to them.

Just as they had joined them, the people from the fore-top-mast cried out, "A sail! a sail!" The captain thought it better to let the ship lie to, as, by seeing the mainmast gone they might be certain they were in distress. It was hazy weather, and they could see at no great distance; but the strange ship was soon near enough to see and hear their guns. Just after she had hoisted her colours (which were Danish), her main-top-sail sheet gave way, which, when Captain Nicholls saw, he concluded that the other captain was going to clew his main-top-mast up, to pend him, and come to their assistance, which good news he immediately communicated to the priest and others. In transports of joy they embraced him, calling him their friend and preserver. But, alas! poor mistaken men! this momentary joy was changed into many hours of despondency by a second disappointment; for as soon as the strange captain had knotted or spliced his top-sail sheet, he sheeted it home, and hauled from them. This was about three in the afternoon. Gloomy despair then reigned in every countenance, and lamentations echoed in the air. Captain Nicholls now wore the ship, which she bore very well, and steered tolerably before the wind.

About half an hour after, the old French gentleman came to Captain Nicholls, and affectionately embracing him, said, that he and his countrymen requested that the captain and his people would endeavour to save their own lives in their boats, and leave them to their fate, as it was impossible the boats could carry all. The captain replied, that there were no hopes of life for any; as they had all embarked in the same unhappy voyage, they ought all to take the same chance. Urged by their further solicitations, he mentioned their proposal to Captain Moore and his people, who said, as nothing further could be done, they would comply

with their request. They took leave of each other with tears in their eyes, and the captain requested his people to keep the boats near the ship, which he was determined not to quit himself until it was dark. They all assured him that they would not leave him, and hastened down the stern-ladder. As the boats ranged up by the sea, under the ship's counter, those that went last hove themselves down, and were caught by them in the boat.

Captain Nicholls had a little Norse boy on board, whom no entreaties could prevail on to go into the boat until he did. When it grew dark, the captain insisted upon his going, saying he would follow him immediately. He got on the stern ladder, when a Frenchman, whom the fears of death had induced to quit his wife and children, unperceived by any, got over the taffrail, and treading upon the boy's fingers, made him shriek out. Imagining somebody was in danger, the captain went to see what was the matter, the old Frenchman following him; when the latter, perceiving the man and his intentions, called him by his name, and said he was sorry to find him so base as to desert his family. The man seemed ashamed of what he had done, and came over the taffrail again. The people in the boat begged the captain to come in, as the blows, which she took under the ship's counter, were likely to sink her.

Seeing the priest lay his arms over the rails in great emotion, with all the apprehensions of death painted in his countenance, the captain asked him if he were willing to take his chance with him? He replied, yes, if he had room for him. The captain told him he had. Immediately the priest went and gave his people his benediction: then, after saluting the old gentleman, he tucked up his canonical robes, and went into the boat.

As soon as the captain was in the boat, he bade the sailors cast them adrift. It was very dark; they had neither moon nor stars to direct them. Dreadful situation! twenty-seven in the long-boat and nine in the cutter, without victuals and drink, and wholly ignorant how far they were from the English coast. It began now to blow very fresh, with sleet and snow, and they agreed to keep as close to the ship as it was possible. The people, from their long exertions at the pumps were very much fatigued; and, after sitting awhile in the wet and cold they began to wish they had stayed in the ship and perished, as now they might endure a lingering death.

The boats now began to make water, and the men being so exhausted, became indifferent of their fate, and refused to bale them. The captain, however, prevailed upon them to heave the water out of the long-boat. Having a brisk gale, they had run a great way from the time they left the unfortunate ship; but at ten a.m. to their great sorrow, it fell calm, which threw the people into absolute despair. Captain Nicholls observed that the water was coloured: and asked for twine, one of the men gave him

a ball which he had in his pocket. They then knocked out the bolts of the long-boat, to make a deep sea lead with, and, when sounded, to their great joy they found but forty-five fathoms water.

The people now began to complain of hunger and thirst, when the captain showing, that as they had nothing to eat or drink it was useless to complain. He was certain, by their soundings, they were near Scilly, and did not doubt, if it cleared up, but they should see land. He begged them then to hope for the best, and bear up with manly resolution. His little Norse boy (who always kept close to the captain) now told him that he had got some bread in the bosom of his shirt; but when he took it out it was like baker's dough. It was notwithstanding very acceptable, being about four pounds. The captain put it into his hat, and distributed it equally, calling the yawl to have their share. This, instead of being a relief, increased their troubles; for, having been so wet and clammy, it hung to the roofs of their mouths, and they had nothing to wash it down. Mr. Fox had some allspice, which was of very little service. One of the sailors having a pewter spoon, they cut it into junks, and by forcing them down their throats, created a saliva, and by this means they swallowed it.

A light breeze sprung up about noon at S.W. By the boats being foul of the main-mast, &c., the oars were all washed out, except two in each boat. The captain, hearing a noise among the crew, inquired the reason; and having been informed that two sailors were disputing about a couple of blankets, which one of them had brought from the ship, he observed that the present was no time for contentions, and ordered the blankets to be thrown overboard. On recollection, however, he desired them to be brought to him, as he would convert them to a purpose that would be serviceable to all, On asking for a needle and twine, which he was presently furnished with, he told them that he designed to make-sail of them, and requested the mate to take the remainder of the painter and unlay it; as, it being a three-strand rope, it would make them shrouds and a stay. They erected one oar for a main-mast, and the other they broke to the breadth of the blankets, and made a yard of. The people in the cutter seeing what they had done, and having a hammock with them, made a main-sail of that.

At four p.m. it cleared up, and they perceived a brig about two miles from them. Captain Nicholls now ordered the cutter to give chase, and let them know their distress; for being lighter than the long-boat, he thought that she would soon overtake them. The brig seeing them alter their course, stood from them directly. In consequence of their strange appearance, and it being war time, she probably took them for one of the lug-sail boats, which the French privateers used to frequent the lands off Sicily with. The cutter, however, gained on the brig very fast, but,

to the great mortification of those in the long-boat, by the time they supposed her mid-way, a very thick fog came on, and they saw neither the brig nor the cutter any more.

Night now coming on, and it being still very foggy, the people, nearly dead for want of sleep, reposed themselves, sitting, half way in water, for it was impossible for so many to find seats. Captain Nicholls, anxious for the preservation of his people, endeavoured to keep his eyes open, though this was the fifth night that he had taken no rest. About eleven it cleared up. The captain thought he saw land. Everybody was asleep but the man at the helm and himself. The captain, however, was determined not to call out "land" till assured it was so. Again he thought he saw land. The man at the helm had by this time dropped asleep, and Captain Nicholls took the tiller. After some time, he awoke Captain Moore, and told him that he thought he saw land: but Captain Moore only answered in a tone of despondency, that they should never more see land, and dropped asleep again. Captain Nicholls then awoke Mr. Fox, who had had a good sleep, and seemed quite refreshed. Mr. Fox immediately cried out that they were near land, and close in with the breakers. Thus it was fortunate that Mr. Fox was awake; for in all probability they would all have perished by running on the breakers, as Captain Nicholls was totally unacquainted with them. At the word "land!" everyone awoke, and, with some difficulty they cleared the rocks.

At first they could not distinguish what part of the English coast it was; but it clearing more and more every moment, Captain Nicholls looked under the lee-leach of the blanket main-sail and discovered St. Michael's Mount in Mount's Bay. The boat would not fetch the land near Penzance; and as they had no oars, it was determined not to endeavour to run round the Lizard, but for Falmouth; and wherever she would chance to fetch, to run her boldly on shore. It was a fine night; and after they got round the point, they found the water very smooth. They kept the boat close to the wind, and fetched between Penzance and the Mount. The joy in finding themselves in such a happy condition is not to be described; it gave them new life and strength. The people forward called out that there were two rocks ahead. Captain Nicholls jumped up and carried the boat between them without ever touching ground. In a little time after she ran ashore on a sandy beach.

The sailors immediately jumped into the water, and carried Captain Nicholls and the priest ashore. They left the boat as she was making the best of her way to Penzance. Some of the people, with sleeping half way in the water, by which they were wet from head to foot, found themselves so benumbed, that they with difficulty went along.

On their road, as they marched to Penzance, they fell in with a river of fresh water, of which they drank heartily, and were

thereby greatly revived. They got into town about three o'clock in the morning, and seeing a light in a tavern, made up to it. Having been market-day, the people to the inn were all gone to bed, but the mistress of the house was up. She was terribly alarmed at the sight of the strangers, and indeed their shocking appearance, together with the unseasonable hour of their visit, were sufficient cause for apprehension. On hearing their story, the master of the inn got up and called his servants, who soon got for them what provision the house afforded. After drying and refreshing themselves, as many as could find beds went to them, and the rest slept on the floor by the fire-side.

The next day Captain Nicholls went, with the priest, to the mayor of the town, to make a protest before a notary, in order to get credit for the people as well as for himself, who were in want of every necessary. Having been referred to a Mr. Charles Langford, a merchant, the captain went to him. This gentleman received Captain Nicholls very politely, and asked him to breakfast with him, when the captain declined, saying, he wished to breakfast with his people at the inn. The captain then requested that he would furnish him with credit; but Mr. Langford declined complying with his request, as the captain was an entire stranger to him, and he had already suffered from having been lately imposed upon.

Captain Nicholls finding that the master of the inn refused him credit, applied again to Mr. Langford for some money on his ring, watch, buckles, &c.; but as he was going to take his buckles out of his shoes, Mr. Langford, perceiving his tears, and believing him, he said, an honest man, told him he should have what credit he pleased. He then gave him the money he required without any deposit.

During this, the second mate and eight men from the cutter arrived. They informed Captain Nicholls, that in consequence of the fog they could not come up with the brig; that, when it cleared they saw the Land's End and got on shore. They had left the cutter as nobody would buy her, and had inquired the way to Penzance, where, as they were in great distress, they were happy in having met their fellow-sufferers.

Captain Nicholls went to the inn, paid what was owing, and for their unkindness, went to another house to breakfast. After this he got what necessaries the people wanted. They stayed a day longer at Penzance in order to rest themselves. The captain then having procured a carriage for himself, Captain Moore, and officers, set out for Exeter. The rest of the people, who had procured a pass of the mayor, walked. At Exeter, Captain Nicholls was entertained by a worthy friend of his, Samuel Killet, Esq., collector of the customs, who sincerely sympathised with him on account of his misfortune, and the loss of the Duke William, with

360 souls. Mr. Killet provided a house, a good supper, and beds, for them at his own expense. They stayed in Exeter two days, and then set out for London.

What is very remarkable, when Captain Nicholls and his party left the Duke William in distress, there was a small jolly-boat on board; and just before she went down, four Frenchmen threw her, with two small paddles, overboard, and swam to her. They got into Falmouth soon after Captain Nicholls landed. They were no seamen, nor had ever seen the English coast, so that theirs, like that of the long-boat and cutter, was a most miraculous escape. The Duke William (according to their report) swam till it fell calm, and as she went down her decks blew up. The noise was like the explosion of a gun, or a loud clap of thunder. The Frenchmen had but just left her when she was seen no more.

LETTRES DE L'ABBE GIRARD

Une lettre de l'abbé Girard à l'abbé de l'Isle-Dieu du 24 janvier 1759 à bord du paquebot "Le Canadien" dans le port de Brest:

«Me Voicy, Monsieur, de relache à Brest après avoir été préservé et sauvé d'un naufrage ou je devais périr, et ou 300 hommes ont perdu la vie sur un vaisseau anglais, qui nous passait de l'Isle St-Jean à St-Malo, suivant la capitulation de Louisbourg.

Je me suis embarqué le 20.8bre avec bon nombre d'habitans de ma paroisse . . . Je suis party du port la joye, ou les anglais ont bati un petit fort et ou ils ont laissé 150 hommes de garnison, dès le 4.9bre nous avons manqués de périr; mais le 13.xbre le vaisseau coulant bas d'eau qu'on n'a pu étancher ni épuiser avec 4 pompes et 3 puits . . . L'équipage s'est sauvé et ma sauve moy même avec quatre de mes habitans et paroisiens, passagers acadiens, dont deux mariés et deux garçons.

Tous les autres ont été engloutis dans la mer et cela dans la manche à 20 ou 30 lieues de terre.

Nous avons gagné heureusement, et comme par miracle, les cotes D'Angleterre ou nous avons été sans aucuns secours, ni du côté du Roy dangleterre ni du Roy de france pendant un mois et quelques jours (n'étant pas prisonniers) . . . Enfin nous avons été embarqués pour La Rochelle dans un paquebot.

Nous sommes cependant de relache à Brest, ou nous avons débarqués pour attendre lhonneur de votre reponse et vos avis; mais etant sans ressource nous sommes obligés de rester à Bord pour vivre, car nous n'avons rien sauvé que notre corps bien mal vêtu (Livres, papiers et autres effets perdus).

Nous voilà presentement hors d'Etat de travailler si la cour ne fait attention a une aussi triste situation, depuis plus de 20 ans de service tant à l'acadie, sous le gouvernement anglais, qu'à L'Isle St-Jean.

Il a péri dans ce naufrage ce qu'il y avait de plus notable dans ma paroisse, après trois mois de Prison a Halifax⁽¹⁾.

Vous voyez mon Etat, Monsieur, et ma triste position. je ne prendray aucun parti que je n'aye L'honneur de votre reponse pour me déterminer à suivre en tout la vocation que Dieu m'a donnée et qui me paraîtra toujours suffisamment manifestée par les vues que mes Superieurs auront de moy persuadé d'ailleurs que Dieu ne m'a sauvé la vie pour lui consacrer ce qui m'en reste, partout ou mes Superieurs me destineront.

Je ne puis entrer dans un grand detail pour le moment present, Monsieur, parce que je doit partir d'icy au premier bon vent pour La Rochelle, ou je compte trouver plus de ressources . . .

J'ay L'honneur detre avec une très parfaite soumission et très Respectueusement

Monsieur

Votre tres humble et
tres obeissant serviteur

Girard

missionnaire de L'isle St-Jean.

à M. l'abbé de lisle Dieu vicaire general des colonies de La Nlle. france en canada (Coll. Moreau St-Méry F.3 vol. 50, fol. 639).

Lettre de l'abbé Girard au Marquis de Pérusse, A Jouarre proche la Ferté, le 14 décembre 1774.

"J'ai bientôt 62 ans. . .

"Depuis mon arrivée en France avec ces pauvres gens (les Acadiens), que j'ai vu périr en mer en partie (300 âmes dans le vaisseau où j'étais qui a coulé à fond, un autre a péri aussi auprès de nous, et un troisième sur les côtes d'Espagne) j'ai reçu. . .⁽²⁾

(1) Les trois mois de prison dont parle ci-contre M. Girard sont ceux qu'il a passés à Halifax avec 4 de ses principaux habitants avant de quitter la paroisse de Cobéquid, aux Mines, en Acadie, sous le Gouvernement anglais. On peut voir sur cet article le journal de 1753 dont copie est dans le dépôt de la marine. (note anonyme)

(2) Papiers de Murard, cités par Ernest Martin, *Les Acadiens exilés en France*, Paris 1936, p. 277.

Attakapas Historical Association

par le R. P. CLÉMENT CORMIER, c.s.c.

J'ai pris connaissance récemment de l'établissement d'une société historique dont les activités sauront intéresser nos propres membres; et, au bénéfice de ces derniers, j'ai cru utile de communiquer ces quelques renseignements. C'est à M. Thomas-J. Arceneaux de Lafayette que je dois le privilège de connaître l'existence de cette nouvelle société.

Il s'agit d'une organisation appelée "Attakapas Historical Association", dont le siège est à Saint-Martinville, en plein coeur de la région acadienne de la Louisiane. Dans cette coquette petite ville, arrosée par le Bayou Tèche, tout parle des Acadiens: le majestueux chêne où se seraient rencontrés les amoureux qui ont inspiré l'épopée de Longfellow; le tombeau d'Évangéline dominé par une gracieuse statue de l'héroïne, un don de Dolores del Rio, interprète du rôle Évangéline; le parc Longfellow-Évangéline; deux musées acadiens; une vieille maison acadienne transformée en centre d'artisanat.

D'après ce que j'ai pu recueillir, le mot "Attakapas" rappelle une tribu indienne de la contrée; il désignait autrefois une grande région, et en même temps un poste de traite. Aujourd'hui il circonscrit plus nettement un comté comprenant des villes dont les bottins téléphoniques regorgent de noms acadiens: Lafayette, Ibérie, Abbéville, Pont-Breaux, etc.

La société historique était créée le 30 mai 1966, avec la signature des documents d'incorporation. Au mois d'octobre de la même année, elle comptait déjà 161 membres.

Ce qui m'impressionne, c'est le dynamisme et l'ingéniosité des initiateurs dès le démarrage.

La structure comprend trois paliers: l'assemblée générale annuelle, un conseil de direction composé d'une douzaine de membres et un exécutif groupant cinq officiers.

Dès octobre de l'année de fondation paraissait le premier numéro d'un bulletin appelé "Attakapas Gazette". Si ma collection est complète, le bulletin compte à date quatre publications,

ou (en vertu d'une combinaison) cinq numéros. Présenté modestement sous forme de feuilles miméographiées, le contenu est substantiel et intéressant.

L'ingéniosité des organisateurs paraît surtout dans le stratagème qui semble avoir été adopté pour garantir l'alimentation de la Gazette. Dans le premier numéro, l'Association invitait chacun des membres à signaler son principal champ d'intérêt: histoire, sites historiques, généalogie, traditions. Ces quatre secteurs ont par la suite pris la forme de comités actifs; et d'après ce que je puis constater, chacun des quatre comités se rend responsable de recruter des articles pour un prochain numéro. Comme résultat la Gazette est bien garnie d'une variété d'études qui ont de la valeur.

Ce n'est pas tout. Outre les quatre comités que je qualifierais "d'études ou de recherches", il en existe un cinquième responsable des "publications"—c'est-à-dire la Gazette régulière, et ce qu'on appelle les publications spéciales.

Une première publication spéciale est déjà sur le marché: c'est un ouvrage technique, une compilation de contrats de mariage et de recensements remontant aux origines; en plus de sa valeur objective, ce document est du plus haut intérêt pour nous parce qu'il permet de retracer en Louisiane un grand nombre de familles déportées de la vieille Acadie.

Dans le dernier numéro de la Gazette dont je dispose, (octobre 1967), on annonce la publication spéciale no II: une liste alphabétique de quelques 15,000 noms tirés des actes des registres paroissiaux. Je prévois que nous aurons là un instrument de travail très précieux.

Je suis impressionné par une telle vitalité et un tel travail méthodique. Et j'exprime aux organisateurs et aux membres de la "Attakapas Historical Association" mes félicitations et mes meilleurs voeux. En même temps, j'invite la rédaction de nos CAHIERS à ajouter un message plus officiel à l'intention de cette société-soeur.

On peut devenir membre associé de l'Attakapas historical Association en versant une cotisation annuelle de \$3.00. Pour tout renseignement additionnel, s'adresser comme suit:

M. Harris J. Periou, Président
Attakapas Historical Association
Casier postal 107
Saint-Martinville
Louisiane 70582

Rapport abrégé des activités de la Société Historique Acadienne pour l'année 1967

par MADAME LÉONE BOUDREAU-NELSON, présidente

27 février — L'ethnologue Jean-Claude Dupont est le conférencier invité à l'assemblée générale; il nous parle du fait français à Terre-Neuve d'après des recherches qu'il a menées auprès des Terre-neuviens d'origine française. Plus d'une centaine de membres ont assisté à cette conférence qui fut agrémentée de musique originale terre-neuvienne et d'une danse exécutée par Monsieur Dupont.

28 mars — La Société Historique du N.-B. invite la présidente de la Société Historique Acadienne à leur parler des Acadiens de Belle-Ile-en-mer à une assemblée générale qui a lieu à Saint-Jean.

6 mai — M. Jaurant-Singer de Luxembourg et directeur général de la Communauté Européenne est accueilli à Moncton par la Société Historique Acadienne qui lui organise une visite de la ville.

17 mai — Mgr François Bourgeois de Shédiac est le conférencier invité à une assemblée générale; il nous a parlé avec toute l'éloquence que nous lui connaissons de l'oeuvre de Mgr Marcel-François Richard, en s'appuyant sur une documentation très volumineuse.

A la même réunion eut lieu le lancement du livre intitulé "L'Ile de Shippagan, anecdotes, tours et légendes" du Père Anselme Chiasson et dont la présentation fut faite par Me Adélard Savoie.

22 mai — Réunion à Boston du comité exécutif avec les membres de la Nouvelle-Angleterre où un grand banquet réunissait une soixantaine de personnes au nombre desquelles l'on remarquait la présence de Jacques Massenet, consul de France à Boston.

10 juin — La Société Historique Acadienne collabore au montage d'une exposition sur l'Acadie à Quiberon, en Bretagne, en envoyant par avions des livres et des journaux français afin d'aider à mieux faire connaître l'Acadie.

5 juillet — La présidente de la S.H.A. eut le plaisir d'agir comme juge au Pageant de la Reine du Festival de Homard de Shédiac.

L'on avait jugé cette participation dans l'ordre, puisque la Société était cette année étroitement associée aux fêtes de Shediac.

8 juillet — A Shediac, dévoilement d'une plaque commémorative marquant le centenaire de la première publication du *Moniteur Acadien* le 8 juillet 1867.

Le R. P. Clément Cormier lors du banquet à l'occasion de ce centenaire résuma l'oeuvre du premier journal acadien et fit un exposé des cent ans de journalisme acadien.

12 au 15 juillet — La S.H.A. répondit à l'invitation du Comité des Chars Allégoriques du Festival de Shediac en inscrivant un char allégorique et en participant aux parades des 12 et 15 juillet.

Le Char de la S.H.A. remporta un trophé du Centenaire.

Pendant les parades, des centaines de reproductions du prospectus du *Moniteur* furent distribuées. La S.H.A. en avait fait reproduire 1000 copies.

15 juillet — La S.H.A. est officiellement invitée à l'ouverture du Village des Pionniers à Mont-Carmel, I.P.E. La présidente adressa la parole au nom de la Société et des invités venus de l'extérieur.

19 juillet — M. Vernon Parenton, professeur à L'Université d'Etat de La Louisiane fut accueilli par la S.H.A. à son arrivée à Moncton et une visite des environs fut organisée pour lui et sa famille.

19 juillet — Une lettre de l'Honorable DesBrisay annonçait que la demande d'octrois faite au Gouvernement par la S.H.A. avait été approuvée par le Conseil des Octrois du Gouvernement du N.-B. Cette lettre était accompagnée d'un chèque de mille dollars.

21 juillet — La S.H.A. envoie un télégramme de félicitations à la famille des Steeves qui célèbre son bicentenaire.

23 juillet — Au 175^e anniversaire de la fondation de Barachois, la présidente est invitée à faire l'histoire de la paroisse. Au cours des festivités, une plaque fut dévoilée indiquant que l'église de Barachois (1822) est la plus ancienne du N.-B. qui n'ait jamais connu la moindre interruption de service.

6 août — Le dévoilement d'un monument imposant de granit au cours des manifestations du bicentenaire de Cocagne et du Centenaire de la Confédération — organisé conjointement par la S.H.A. et le Comité du Centenaire de Cocagne.

A la demande de la S.H.A., Henri Goguen prononça le discours de circonstance et rendit un vibrant hommage aux pionniers de Cocagne ainsi qu'à leurs descendants.

11 au 13 août — Rencontre avec des cousins acadiens qui constituent 90% de la population des Iles-de-la-Madeleine.

Ce fut un voyage intéressant tant par la beauté de ces îles enchanteresses que par l'hospitalité des gens qui nous reçurent à bras ouverts.

Accueilli à la descente d'avion par le R. P. E. Nadeau, le groupe de la S.H.A. fut officiellement reçu au Centre Culturel de Havre-Aubert.

20 août — A Saint-Louis de Kent, à l'occasion du dévoilement de plaques commémoratives en l'honneur de Mgr M. F. Richard et de Joseph Babineau, premier colon de St-Louis, la présidente fut invitée à prononcer le discours de circonstance.

1er au 5 septembre — Visite de la Délégation Française. Ce fut la S.H.A. qui prépara l'itinéraire, organisa les nombreuses réceptions, qui accueillit ce groupe distingué à son arrivée en Acadie et lui fit ses adieux dans la capitale du N.-B. où lors d'un banquet offert par le Gouvernement fut émis le voeu que les échanges entre la France et l'Acadie se continuent d'un côté comme de l'autre par des voyages réguliers.

15 octobre — A St-Paul de Kent eut lieu le dévoilement d'une plaque commémorative en l'honneur des pionniers de la paroisse. A cette occasion le R. P. Anselme Chiasson fut invité à prononcer le discours de circonstance. D'autres membres de l'exécutif de la S.H.A. assistaient officiellement à ces manifestations.

17 octobre — Assemblée annuelle. Le Père Anselme Chiasson est le conférencier et nous parle de l'histoire du Cap-Breton, de Louisbourg et des Acadiens de l'île.

11 décembre — Un grand concours d'histoire pour les étudiants dernier projet du centenaire, est organisé par la S.H.A. \$200.00 en prix est attribué par la Commission du Centenaire.

12 décembre — A l'assemblée annuelle qui a lieu à l'Edifice des Arts de l'Université de Moncton, M. Emery LeBlanc est le conférencier invité et nous parle de la famille des LeBlanc.

La Société a publié 4 numéros des Cahiers en 1967.

UN RÉSUMÉ DES ACTIVITES DU GROUPE DE LA NOUVELLE-ANGLETERRE

25 octobre 1966. — Assemblée de fondation de ce Groupe de la Société Historique Acadienne. Election de Me Pierre Belliveau comme Président et du R. P. Clarence d'Entremont comme secrétaire. Résolutions: 3 ou 4 réunions par année; augmenter le nombre de membres; seconder tout ce qui pourrait intéresser les Acadiens de la région en matières historiques, culturelles et sociales.

9 janvier 1967. — Conférence du Père Hector Hébert, s.j. sur les Acadiens déportés et leur retour. On apprit aussi aux membres

l'approbation enthousiaste de notre Groupe par le bureau chef de la Société Historique Acadienne.

13 mars 1967. — Assemblée et conférence du Père Alfred Landry sur les origines historiques du poème *Évangéline*. Le docteur Albert Poirier montra aux membres un bronze unique d'Évangéline, oeuvre de l'artiste Lucien Gosselin.

22 mai 1967. — Banquet offert par notre Groupe, au Patten Restaurant à Boston, en l'honneur de tout le bureau chef de la S.H.A. venu nous visiter et nous encourager. Étaient présents de Moncton: Mme Léone Boudreau-Nelson, présidente, M. Alphonse Melanson et son épouse, trésorier, R. P. Anselme Chiasson, Ronald LeBlanc, M. Bernard Poirier, publiciste et son épouse, M. Gilbert Finn; autres invités d'honneur: M. Massanet, Consul de France à Boston, M. J.-Henri Goguen, Président de la Société Saint-Jean-Baptiste d'Amérique et d'autres. Tous ces personnages prirent la parole, ainsi que Me Pierre Belliveau qui souhaita la bienvenue et le Père d'Entremont qui, avec finesse et beaucoup d'esprit, présenta chacun des assistants. A cette occasion, on procéda au lancement d'un nouveau livre du Père Anselme Chiasson: *L'île de Shippagan, Anecdotes, Tours et Légendes*. Ce fut une assemblée enthousiaste et réconfortante.

13 novembre 1967 — Conférence du Dr Albert Poirier à l'aide de diapositives: *Voyages en Acadie*. On fit rapport de deux ouvrages publiés par deux de nos membres: "*L'Histoire de la paroisse de Saint-Antoine*" par M. Evariste Léger, et "*L'Histoire de Wedgeport*" par le R. P. Clarence d'Entremont. Il fut aussi question de l'île Sainte-Croix, berceau de l'Acadie qui devrait devenir un parc historique et national; but auquel notre Groupe veut consacrer une attention toute spéciale.

LIVRES ACADIENS IMPORTANTS ET RARES:

Le Parler franco-acadien et ses origines, par le sénateur Pascal Poirier, 1928.

Étude approfondie, de grande classe, de 340 pages sur le parler acadien, ses titres de noblesse, ses origines, sa beauté et ses richesses. Même si ce parler n'a pas suivi les dictats de l'Académie française, il n'est pas un patois, mais le pur parler français du XVIII^e siècle. Prix net: \$5.00.

Les Conventions Nationales

Un document émouvant qui contient l'historique des conventions acadiennes de 1881 à 1890, les discours prononcés et les décisions prises: fête nationale, patronne, drapeau, etc. Compilé par Ferdinand Robidoux en 1907, 285 pages. Prix net: \$5.00.

En vente à la Société Historique Acadienne, C. P. 1032, Moncton, N.-B. Canada.

De Gaulle et les Acadiens:

Voici le texte du discours de De Gaulle prononcé à l'Élysée en janvier dernier à l'occasion de la visite historique en France de nos quatre Acadiens, dont il donne les noms. Les journaux ont beaucoup parlé de cette visite, très peu ont reproduit ce discours du chef d'Etat français. Nous croyons qu'il mérite d'être publié ici pour la postérité :

"Et bien voilà. Après plus de deux siècles et demi où nous fûmes séparés, voici que nous nous retrouvons entre Acadiens et français de France. Ah, messieurs, ah, mes amis, quelles épreuves nous avons, les uns et les autres, subies pendant tout ce temps-là. Les Acadiens, longuement persécutés dans cette terre de la Nouvelle-France où Champlain avait fondé à Port-Royal le premier établissement français du Canada, les Acadiens qui, ensuite, en avaient été chassés, mais qui étaient revenus à force de courage et de ténacité, les Acadiens qui, grâce à la fécondité miraculeuse et aux sacrifices admirables de leurs mamans françaises sont aujourd'hui 350,000 quand ils étaient 2,000 à l'origine, tandis que l'incroyable fidélité de leurs pères a fait en sorte que, par la langue, l'esprit, la religion, le caractère, ils sont restés aussi français que jamais. Quant à nous, de France, en 255 ans, que de guerres, d'invasions, révolutions il nous a fallu traverser, le tout marqué par des gloires éclatantes et par d'immenses malheurs. De là, c'est vrai, beaucoup d'oublis et de négligences à l'égard des Français-canadiens, notamment des Acadiens. Mais, maintenant, vous l'avez vu, nous sommes debout, bien vivants, remplis d'espérance.

"Rien n'est donc plus naturel et ne peut être plus fécond que de rétablir entre nous des rapports de Français à Français. Ces rapports, les nouer et les organiser, c'était le but de votre visite. C'en sera le résultat. Qu'il s'agisse d'enseignement et de culture, ou bien d'échanges de personnes et d'idées, ou bien de presse, de livres, de cinéma, etc. . .

"Ce qui a été réglé ici pour ce qui concerne les Acadiens, et réciproquement, marque un début déjà important et qui va se développer. Car la France d'aujourd'hui ne méconnaît plus tout ce que vous avez fait et tout ce que vous pouvez faire pour notre communauté française.

"Je lève mon verre en l'honneur de M. le docteur Léon Richard, président de la Société nationale des Acadiens, en l'honneur de M. Adélarde Savoie, recteur de l'université de Moncton, en l'honneur de M. Gilbert Finn, directeur général de la Société de l'Assomption et de son organe "L'Évangéline", en l'honneur de M. Euclide Daigle, vice-président de l'Association acadienne d'éducation, en l'honneur des Acadiens, rameau très cher et, par bonheur, retrouvé de notre vieille et nouvelle France".

Le Devoir 22 janvier, 1968.

Le Frère Antoine Bernard

Antoine Bernard, le douzième d'une famille de dix-sept enfants, est né à Maria, comté de Bonaventure, en Gaspésie, le 14 avril 1890.

Ses parents étaient de vieille souche acadienne: Narcisse Bernard, cultivateur, et Domitille Audet.

Le jeune Bernard fit ses études primaires à l'école de son village natal de Maria. Une fois ses études classiques terminées chez les Clercs de St-Viateur, il prononça ses vœux perpétuels en 1913.

Attiré par des études supérieures en lettres-histoires, il suivit des cours à l'Université de Montréal et à Paris. De l'Institut catholique de Paris il obtint sa licence ès lettres-histoire, et de l'Université de Montréal, son doctorat ès lettres . . .

En 1926, il devient le deuxième titulaire de la chaire d'histoire acadienne à l'Université de Montréal. Le frère Bernard a également été professeur aux Universités de la Louisiane, Saint-Joseph et Laval.

Il était membre d'honneur de la Société mutuelle du Québec depuis 1945, de l'Assomption depuis 1953 et du Comité de la Survivance française (Conseil de la Vie française en Amérique.)

Il a collaboré à de nombreuses revues et au journal "Le Devoir" depuis 1917. À plusieurs reprises, il a prononcé des discours au Québec en faveur des campagnes de souscription pour le journal l'Évangéline lors des années 1930-40.

Le 27 mai, 1955, l'Université Saint-Joseph à Memramcook, décernait au Frère Antoine Bernard, historien, un doctorat honorifique.

Dans sa fiche biographique au journal L'Évangéline, le frère Bernard avait écrit dans l'espace réservé aux projets d'avenir: "Vieillir en paix, en continuant de travailler pour l'Acadie".

Bibliographie

Voici une liste des oeuvres du frère Bernard: soulignons l'Histoire de la Survivance acadienne, ouvrage couronné par l'Académie française.

Coquillages, Montréal, 1922; La Gaspésie au Soleil, 1925; La Gaspésie au Soleil, 2e édition, Paris et Tours, 1932; Histoire de la survivance acadienne, Montréal, 1935; Le Drame acadien, Montréal, 1936; Histoire de l'Acadie, Montréal, 1939; Vie du père Champagneur, Montréal, 1943; L'Acadie vivante, Montréal, 1945; Les Clercs de St-Viateur au Canada, 1897-1947, Montréal, 1951; Histoire de la Louisiane, Québec, 1953; Au coeur du Canada français, Paris, 1956; Les soeurs de St-Paul de Chartres, Montréal, 1957; Les Hospitalières de Saint-Joseph et leur oeuvre en Acadie, Montréal, 1958 et Carnet de route, Montréal, 1965.

L'Acadie pleure son décès survenu le 14 décembre 1967.

(De L'Évangéline 19 déc. 1967)

M. Henri Blanchard

Né en 1881 à Rustico, l'année de la première Convention Nationale des Acadiens, Henri Blanchard fut toute sa vie un patriote engagé, clairvoyant, respectueux des personnes mais tenace et productif. Son père, Jérémie Blanchard fut député et ministre à la législature de l'île du Prince-Edouard durant plusieurs termes.

Ses études primaires terminées, Henri Blanchard obtint son brevet d'instituteur du Collège Prince de Galles de Charlottetown, puis il enseigna pendant neuf ans. Mais, le goût de l'étude le pousse à continuer de s'instruire. Ce sera un baccalauréat ès-arts à l'université St-Dunstan, des études de perfectionnement à Mount Allison, au collège d'agriculture de Guelph, Ont. et même à la Sorbonne. De retour au pays, il sera professeur au collège Prince de Galles toute sa vie.

Henri Blanchard a été le fondateur ou l'âme de toutes les associations et les organisations françaises de l'île: association des instituteurs, Société Saint-Thomas d'Aquin, concours annuels de français dans les écoles, bourses d'études pour les Acadiens de l'île dans les collèges et couvents de la province de Québec. Il prend une part active à toutes les activités françaises nationales. Avec un tact et une délicatesse extrême, son dévouement est sans bornes. Aussi, a-t-il mérité maints honneurs dans sa vie: Une médaille de l'Académie française dès 1938; un certificat de la Société du Bon Parler français en 1945; en 1946, une décoration de l'Ordre du Mérite scolaire par l'Association Acadienne d'Education; un diplôme de l'Alliance française en 1947; en 1949, un doctorat HONORIS CAUSA de l'université Laval et en 1955, un doctorat en éducation de l'université de Saint-Joseph.

En plus de toutes ces activités déjà mentionnées, M. Blanchard s'est toujours intéressé à l'histoire des Acadiens et en particulier des Acadiens de l'île du Prince-Edouard. Et il a le mérite d'avoir publié quatre volumes sur le sujet: *Les Acadiens de l'île Saint-Jean*; *Histoire des Acadiens de l'île du Prince-Edouard*; *Rustico, une paroisse acadienne*; et enfin, *The Acadians of Prince Edward Island*.

On peut dire que M. Blanchard, décédé le 14 janvier dernier, chargé d'oeuvres et de mérite, demeurera dans notre histoire le modèle d'un homme de coeur et d'actions, une de nos belles figures acadiennes. La biographie du Frère Antoine-Bernard a été écrite; souhaitons qu'un jour, celle de M. Blanchard le soit aussi.

Père Anselme Chiasson

En vente:

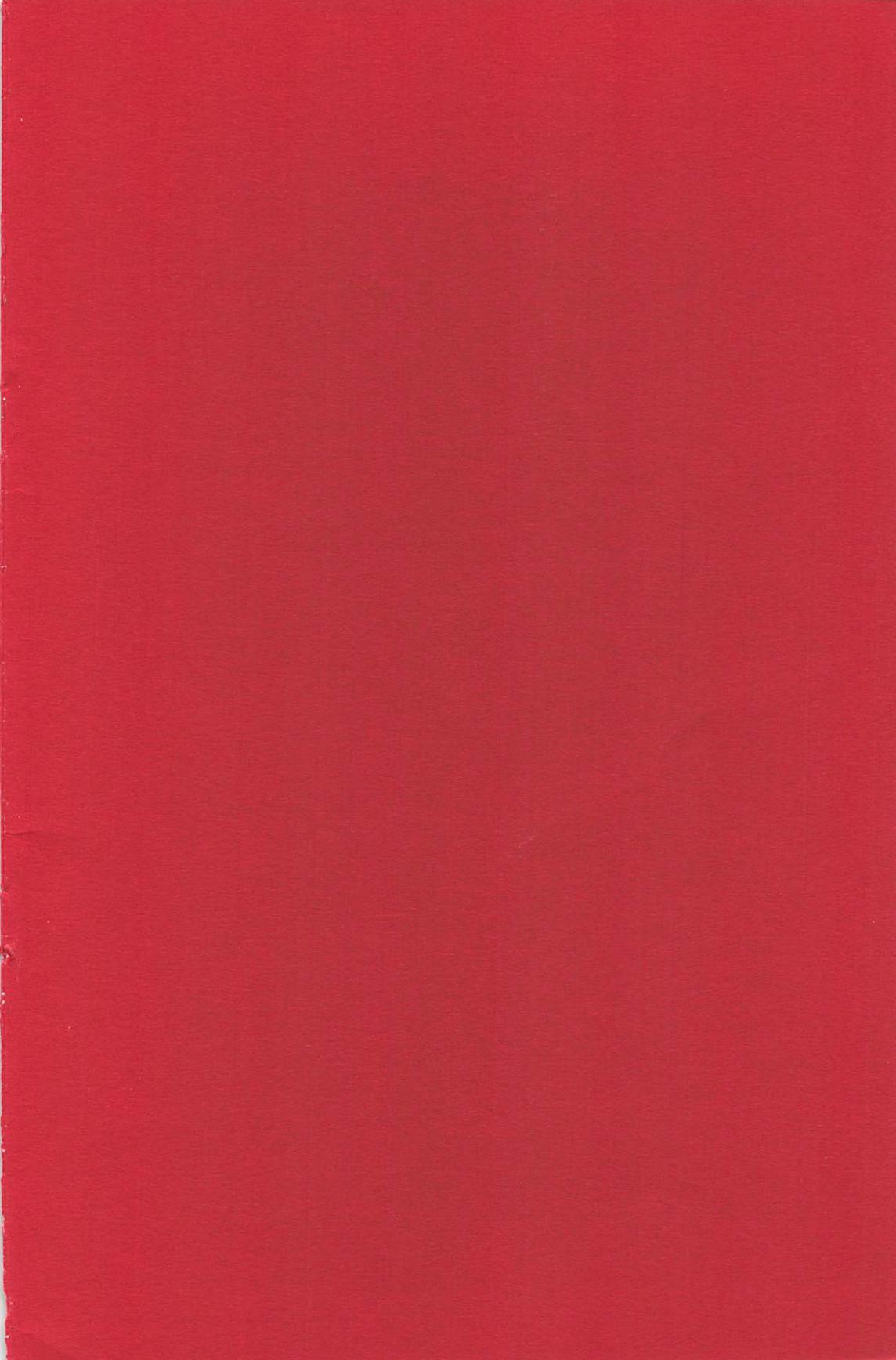
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