
CHAPTER VI

OTHER NOVA SCOTIA SETTLEMENTS, AND EARLY INDIVIDUAL SCOTSMEN

*Stern tide of time, roll back thy crest!
Re-surge from history's, memory's shore!—
Give back the names of those who rest,
Who once were all;—but now no more!*

FROM the earliest days of the British colonisation, Nova Scotia was, in keeping with its name, extremely Scottish. In 1843 statistics from authentic sources gave one-third of the whole population as Scottish or of Scottish descent.

Many of the early settlers, before the United Empire Loyalists, were from Scotland or were Ulster Scotsmen, as is shown in the Pictou settlements. Among the United Empire Loyalists there were also many Scotsmen, and wherever their people settled Scottish surnames were plentiful.

There were many descendants of the famous Fraser Highlanders, such as John Fraser, who died at Shelburne in 1840, aged eighty-eight. This clan was one of the most noted in connection with the history of Canada. As soldiers, dis-

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coverers, statesmen, and divines, many representatives of the name Fraser are famous in our annals.

At Pugwash Harbour there were important Highland settlements. They were men from the Hebrides, and were hardy and industrious. Fort Wallace was another successful settlement.

In 1774 a number of Lowlanders from Dumfriesshire were brought from Prince Edward Island to Pictou. In 1783 the 82nd or Hamilton Regiment was disbanded at Halifax, and the men received grants in Pictou.

Early in the nineteenth century the Frasers made a settlement at Millbrook, and from there certain Macdonalds, Rosses, and Gordons went to Middle River. The Mount Thorn settlement was Protestant. The settlers were McLeans, McLeods, Macdonalds, Chisholms, Camerons, Thompsons, Grants, and Browns.

During the years 1790, 1791, and 1792 many Roman Catholic Highlanders came to the Maritime Provinces, and their numbers were added to year by year up to 1828. Those in Nova Scotia settled chiefly in Antigonish County, Pictou, and Cape Breton. They were principally Chisholms, Macdonalds, Camerons, and Frasers. It is said that the chief of the Chisholms evicted many of his tenants to establish sheep-walks on his estate of Strathglas. A great many left there in 1801, and another party in 1803.

The first Highland Catholics settled the parish of Arisaig in Antigonish County. Bishop Macdonald, in a dedication sermon, said: "In

