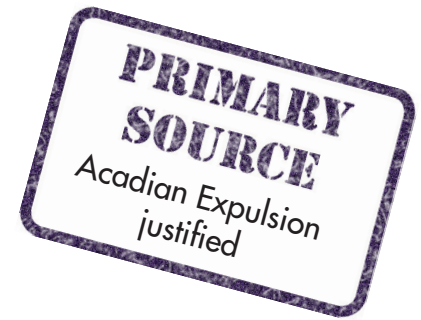


#1

Article 12 of the Treaty of Utrecht

Excerpt from the Treaty of Utrecht, written on April 11, 1713.
It has been translated from the French original.



Comments in brackets are not part of the original document. They have been added to assist the reader with difficult words.

The Treaty of Utrecht April 11, 1713

The most Christian king (King Louis XIV of France) shall cause to be delivered to the queen of Great Britain, on the same day on which the ratifications (approval) of this treaty shall be exchanged, solemn (marked by ceremony) and authentic (real, true) letters or instruments, by virtue (a quality of trust) whereof it shall appear that the island of St. Christopher (Prince Edward Island) is to be possessed hereafter by British subjects only; likewise that all Nova Scotia or Acadie (Acadia), comprehended within its ancient boundaries (the understood boundaries it traditionally occupied); as also the city of Port Royal, now called Annapolis Royal, and all other things in these parts which depend on the said lands and islands, together with the dominion (territory), property and possession of the said islands, lands and places, and all right by whatever treaties (agreements), or any other way attained, which the most Christian king, the crown of France, or any the subjects thereof, have hitherto (until now) had to the said islands, lands, and places, and to the inhabitants of the same, are yielded (given away) and made over to the queen of Great Britain, and to her crown forever, as the most Christian king doth (does) now yield and make over all the said premises (lands), and that in such ample (generous) manner and form that the subjects of the most Christian king shall hereafter be excluded from all kind of fishing in the seas, bays, and other places on the coasts of Nova Scotia, that is to say, on those coasts which lie towards the East, within thirty leagues (166 kilometres), beginning from the island commonly called Sable, inclusively, and thence stretching towards the South West.

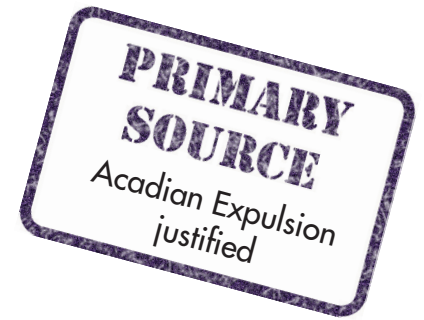
“Treaty of Utrecht, April 11, 1713: FR Archives du Ministère des Affaires étrangères Traités Multilatéraux no 17130003,” New France, new horizons: On French soil in America, n.d., http://www.champlain2004.org/html/12/1206_e.html (Accessed July 18, 2011.) © Public Domain.



#2

The oath of allegiance

Excerpt from the oath of allegiance found enclosed in a letter from John Doucett, Governor of Annapolis Royal, to the British Secretary of State and War on November 5, 1717.



Comments in brackets are not part of the original document. They have been added to assist the reader with difficult words.

To the British Secretary of State and War
November 5, 1717

We the French Inhabitants whose names are under written now dwelling (living) in Annapolis Royal and the adjacent (nearby) parts of Nova Scotia or Acadia formerly subjects of the late French King who by the peace concluded at Utrecht did by articles therein deliver up the whole country of Nova Scotia and Acadia to the late Queen of Great Britain, we do hereby for the aforesaid (this) reason and for the protection of us and our families that shall reside in Annapolis Royal or the adjacent part of Nova Scotia or Acadia, now in possession of his most sacred majesty George, by the Grace of God (a religious expression) King of Great Britain, do declare (promise) that we acknowledge (recognize) him to be the sole (only) King of the said Country and of Nova Scotia and Acadia and all the island ... and we likewise do declare and most solemnly (with religious ceremony) swear before God to own (obey) him as our sovereign (supreme ruler) King and to obey him as his true and lawful subjects in witness whereof we set our hands in the Presence of John Doucett his Majesty's Lieut. Governor of Annapolis Royal this day _____ of _____ in the year of Our Lord 1717.

(Signed)
John Doucett

Nova Scotia Commissioner of Public Records, Selections from the public documents of the Province of Nova Scotia, published under a resolution of the House of Assembly passed March 15, 1865, Thomas b. Akins (ed.), Benjamin Curren (trans.) (Halifax, NS: Charles Annand, 1869), p. 14, http://books.google.com/books?id=_tr0nJAZ6SIC (Accessed June 12, 2011) © Public Domain.



#3

Letter from the inhabitants of Mines to Governor Phillips

Excerpt from a letter sent by French inhabitants of Mines (a village in the Annapolis Valley, Nova Scotia) to Governor Phillips, the newly appointed British officer in charge of the region. This letter was translated from the French original and read at a government meeting.

Comments in brackets are not part of the original document. They have been added to assist the reader with difficult words.



Sir,

These demands we cannot agree to, for several reasons ...

... an oath which is so much more burdensome (emotionally difficult to bear) as we should expose both ourselves and our families to the fury (threat) of the savages (Mi'kmaq aboriginals), who threaten us every day and watch all our proceedings in order to assure themselves that we are not violating (breaking) the oath taken in presence of General Nicholson and two officers from Isle Royals (Cape Breton Island). The oath is known to the courts of England and France, and it appears to us very difficult to relieve ourselves from the conditions it imposes. And if we should happen not to keep our promise to our invincible monarch (the King of France), we would have nothing to expect but punishment from the threatening hands of the savages.

Nevertheless Sir we promise you that we shall be equally as faithful as we have hitherto (until now) been and that we shall not commit any act of hostility (war) against any right (entitlements) of his Brittanic Majesty (King George I-Queen Anne died in 1714), so long as we continue to remain within the limits of his dominions (the areas that he rules over).

(Signed)

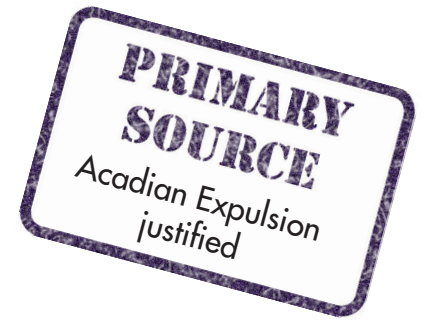
The French inhabitants of Mines

Nova Scotia Commissioner of Public Records, Selections from the public documents of the Province of Nova Scotia, published under a resolution of the House of Assembly passed March 15, 1865, Thomas b. Akins (ed.), Benjamin Curren (trans.) (Halifax, NS: Charles Annand, 1869), p. 28, http://books.google.com/books?id=_tr0nJAZ6SIC (Accessed June 12, 2011) © Public Domain.



#4

Letter from Governor Phillips (of Acadia) to the British Secretary of State Craggs



Excerpt from a letter written in July 1720 by Governor Phillips, the British officer in charge of Acadia, to the British Secretary of State, James Craggs.

Comments in brackets are not part of the original document. They have been added to assist the reader with difficult words.

July 1720

Sir,

... Matters continue here in the same situation in regard to the French Inhabitants, who seem yet undetermined (unsure) which party (King) to choose (and be loyal to), though if left to themselves, would certainly embrace that of enjoying their possessions, by becoming subjects to Great Britain ...

... but the neighbouring French governors (in Québec and Cape Breton) finding that these people will no longer be serviceable (useful) to their interest after swearing allegiance (loyalty) ... are making use of all strategems (strategies) to draw them to their party (side) ...,

... the Priests are continually passing false paquetts (letters), and insinuations (suggestions) among the people as fast as they can be coined (thought up).

... (The inhabitants) are told that the promise ... of enjoying their religion is but a Chimera (a monstrous lie), and ... they will quickly be reduced to the same state with his Majesty's (King George's) Popish (Catholic) Subjects in Ireland (where Catholics were treated harshly by Protestants).

(Signed)
Governer Phillips

Nova Scotia Commissioner of Public Records, Selections from the public documents of the Province of Nova Scotia, published under a resolution of the House of Assembly passed March 15, 1865, Thomas b. Akins (ed.), Benjamin Curren (trans.) (Halifax, NS: Charles Annand, 1869), p. 35, http://books.google.com/books?id=_tr0nJAZ6SIC (Accessed June 12, 2011) © Public Domain.



#5

Description of Nova Scotia from Paul Mascarene



Excerpt from the journal of Paul Mascarene, a French-born, French-speaking British officer from Boston who was sent to Acadia by the British government to collect a tribute (a form of tax) from Acadians. This part of the journal was forwarded on to the Board of Trade from Governor Phillips.

Comments in brackets are not part of the original document. They have been added to assist the reader with difficult words.

- Board of Trade -

There are four considerable settlements on the south side of the bay of Fundy, Annapolis Royal, Minas, Chignecto, and Cobequid which shall be treated on separately. Several families are scattered along the Eastern coast which shall also be mentioned in their turn.

The Inhabitants of these settlements are still all French and Indians; the former (inhabitants) have been tolerated in possession of the lands they possessed, under the French government, and have had still, from time to time longer time allowed them either to take the Oaths to the Crown of Great Britain, or to withdraw (leave the area), which they have always found some pretence (false claim) or other to delay, and to ask for longer time for consideration. They being in general of Romish (Catholic) persuasion, cannot be easily drawn from the French interest, to which they seem to be entirely wedded (bound to), tho' they find a great deal more sweetness under the English government. They use all the means they can to keep the Indians from dealing with the British subjects, and by their mediation spreading among the savages (Aboriginals) several false notions (lies) tending to make them diffident, (timid or shy) and frighten them from a free intercourse (exchange, dialogue, etc.) with them, and prompting them now and then to some mischief which may increase that diffidence (animosity), and oblige them to keep more at a distance.

P.MASCARENE

The foregoing treatise (description) has been carefully examined and found to be exact and perfect.

R. PHILLIPS

Nova Scotia Commissioner of Public Records, Selections from the public documents of the Province of Nova Scotia, published under a resolution of the House of Assembly passed March 15, 1865, Thomas b. Akins (ed.), Benjamin Curren (trans.) (Halifax, NS: Charles Annand, 1869), p. 41, http://books.google.com/books?id=_tr0nJAZ6SIC (Accessed June 12, 2011) © Public Domain.



#6

Letter from French Acadians to France



Excerpt from a letter, written on September 12, 1745, from two Acadian community representatives, Messrs. De Beauharnois and Hocquart, to a French statesman in Paris.

Comments in brackets are not part of the original document. They have been added to assist the reader with difficult words.

12 September 1745

Sir,

... (We) are desirous of returning under the French Dominion (being ruled by France). Sieur Marin (a local official) and the officers of his detachment as well as the missionaries (priests) have assured us of this; they will not hesitate to take up arms (guns) as soon as they are themselves at liberty (are able) to do so; that is, as soon as we shall become masters (in control of) of Port Royal, or they have (gun) powder, and other munitions (weapons) of war, and will be backed by some sedentary troops (soldiers not presently fighting) for their protection against the resentment (retaliation) of the English. If ... any settlers should still be found to hesitate declaring themselves (ready to attack the British), all difficulties would be overcome by the employment of menaces (threats) and force.

The reduction of Louisbourg has, meanwhile, disconcerted (upset) them. M. Marin has reported to us that the day he left Port Royal all the inhabitants were overpowered with grief (sadness); this arose only from the apprehension (fear) of remaining at the disposition (authority) of the enemy; of losing their property, and of being deprived of their missionaries.

We cannot imagine that they (the English) could entertain the idea of removing those (Acadian) people, in order to substitute Englishmen in their stead, unless the desertion of the Indians would embolden them (make them brave enough) to adopt such a course, utterly inhuman as it may be.

(Signed)

Messrs. De Beauharnois and Hocquart

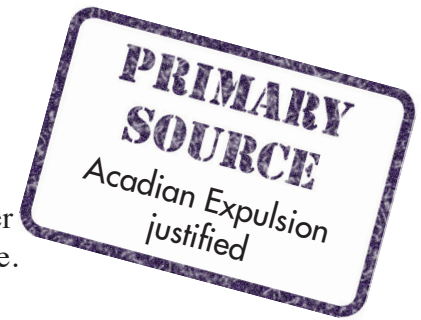
Beauharnois Murdock, A history of Nova-Scotia or Acadie, Vol. II (Halifax, NS: James Barnes, 1866), p. 79, <http://www.archive.org/stream/historyofnovasco02murd#page/n3/mode/2up> (Accessed June 25, 2011) © Public Domain.



#7

Petition from French inhabitants about the oath of allegiance

Excerpt from a petition sent from French inhabitants near Megogoich to Governor Lawrence's house in Halifax on September 27, 1753, regarding the British order to swear the oath of allegiance. The letter, which has been translated from its original French, was read aloud in Governor Lawrence's house at a council meeting.



Comments in brackets are not part of the original document. They have been added to assist the reader with difficult words.

27 September, 1753

Petition to Governer Lawrence

"I sincerely promise and swear that I will be faithful to His Majesty King George the Second and to his successors. So help me God." \ This is the oath we can sign.

... Now in the oath which we bind ourselves to sign, we ask your excellency to be pleased to grant us the following articles ...

1st. That we shall be exempt from (free to get out of) taking up arms (guns) against anyone whatever, whether English, French, Savages or people of any other nation; and that neither we nor any of our descendants shall be taken to pilot or go where we should not wish to go.

2nd. That we shall be free, we and our descendants, to withdraw whenever we shall think proper, with high head (keep our dignity) and to carry away our property or to sell what we cannot carry away; and that we shall be beyond the control of the king of Great Britain.

3rd. That we shall have the full and entire enjoyment of our religion, and as many priests catholic, apostolic, and roman as shall be thought necessary, without any oath of allegiance being required of them.

4th. That we shall have the entire enjoyment of our property without being disturbed by anyone in the world; and that the lands occupied by the English shall be restored to those to whom they formerly belonged (the properties of Acadians who chose to leave rather than swear the Oath were not allowed to be sold in some instances and were given to British settlers).

- The French inhabitants

Nova Scotia Commissioner of Public Records, Selections from the public documents of the Province of Nova Scotia, published under a resolution of the House of Assembly passed March 15, 1865, Thomas b. Akins (ed.), Benjamin Curren (trans.) (Halifax, NS: Charles Annand, 1869), p. 203, http://books.google.com/books?id=_tr0nJAZ6SIC (Accessed June 25, 2011) © Public Domain.



#8

Letter from Thomas Pichon to Captain Scott

Letter written on October 14, 1754, by an English spy living in Acadia among the French. This document was translated from the French original.



Comments in brackets are not part of the original document. They have been added to assist the reader with difficult words.

October 14, 1754

Sir and Very Dear Friend,

I believe I replied to the letter with which you honoured me two months ago. I expected to receive one from you since, and because I am tired of waiting for the pleasure of hearing from you, I am now going to tell you all that I know, for the purpose of inducing you to write. Daudin's affair is causing a good deal of noise. (Henri Daudin, a French priest, was arrested by the British after he was found to possess some letters between himself and Father Le Loutre.) We heard it in the evening of the 7th by a man of the name of Jacob Michel from Port Royal who was to bring papers from that priest to Moses (the British military referred to him as "Moses" because of his level of influence among the Acadians), which would have been found no doubt, had a strict search been made in arresting him. The next day—Sunday—Moses preached the most violent sermon, in which he singularly accommodated (laid blame to) the English nation, and concluded by saying offensive things to the refugees (the Acadians who would not join the fight against the British), whose crimes are, in his opinion, the sole cause of the detention of a holy man (Daudin). He afterwards represented to them what they—the refugees—had to expect from the English. That when they return to the other side (under French rule), they will have neither priests nor sacraments but will die like miserable wretches (unhappy people).

(Signed)
Thomas Pichon

Nova Scotia Commissioner of Public Records, Selections from the public documents of the Province of Nova Scotia, published under a resolution of the House of Assembly passed March 15, 1865, Thomas b. Akins (ed.), Benjamin Curren (trans.) (Halifax, NS: Charles Annand, 1869), p. 229, http://books.google.com/books?id=_tr0nJAZ6SIC (Accessed June 16, 2011) © Public Domain.



#9

Letter from J. L. Le Loutre to the inhabitants of the Parrish of Beaubassin



Excerpts from a letter written by Father Le Loutre in 1754 to members of the Catholic Church in the local area of Beaubassin. This document has been translated from French.

Comments in brackets are not part of the original document. They have been added to assist the reader with difficult words.

BROTHERS,---

While we were tranquil and thought we were in the enjoyment of peace, Mr. Joseph Gorom (a British officer) came with sixty men

... He is preparing to establish there a blockhouse (a small isolated fort that consists of only one building, used to defend in isolated areas) and a small fort, in order to obstruct the roads and prevent the departure of the inhabitants. There is no doubt that the English, early in the spring, will place vessels to guard the passage of the entrance. Thus we see ourselves on the very brink of ruin, exposed to be carried off, and transported to the English islands, and to lose our religion.

Under these unhappy circumstances, we have recourse to your charity (ask for your help); and we earnestly ask you to assist us in getting out of the hands of the English, and in withdrawing ourselves to French territory, where we can enjoy the exercise of our religion. We ask you to strike a blow; and after we have driven Mr. Gorom from our parish, we will all go for our brothers (other Acadians) at Pigiguitz, at Grand Pré, and at Port Royal, who will join us for the purpose of delivering themselves from the slavery with which they are threatened.

(Signed)
J.L. Le Loutre

Nova Scotia Commissioner of Public Records, Selections from the public documents of the Province of Nova Scotia, published under a resolution of the House of Assembly passed March 15, 1865, Thomas b. Akins (ed.), Benjamin Curren (trans.) (Halifax, NS: Charles Annand, 1869), pp. 231-232, http://books.google.com/books?id=_tr0nJAZ6SIC (Accessed June 25, 2011) © Public Domain.



#10

Newspaper editorial justifying the Acadian expulsion

Excerpt from a response to a newspaper editorial, written by Secretary Bulkeley and Judge Deschamps, published on August 18, 1791.



Comments in brackets are not part of the original document. They have been added to assist the reader with difficult words.

August 18, 1791

The Acadian Expulsion Justified

... In the French war of 1744 they [Acadians] joined the Indians [Aboriginals] in the attacks made against the inhabitants and garrison [soldiers] of Annapolis Royal ...

When the settlement was made at Halifax, in 1749, before the people had erected their huts, they [the Acadians], with their priests, excited the Indians to disturb the progress making in building the town, and twice within the space of two years the Indians ... attacked Dartmouth, and put many people to death No person was in safety who ventured one mile from the town ...

From this time until the end of the year 1755 this country was kept in an uninterrupted state of war by the Acadians ...

In the year 1755 when the French were driven by the English troops from Beausejour—afterwards called Fort Cumberland—six hundred French

Acadians appeared in arms against the King's troops ...

At length in the middle of the year 1755 the French sent out a considerable squadron of men-of-war [battleships] with troops on board to Cape Breton. In two ships some thousands of scalping knives were found, which were evidently for no other purpose than to be used against the English—a reward for every English scalp having been paid at Québec ...

... and it was discovered and ascertained by undeniable proof, that detachments were to be made of French troops ... with the French Acadians, amounting to 8000 men, together with the Indians, to make an attack on Halifax and burn it ...

-- Secretary Bulkeley & Judge Deschamps

“Papers relating to the Acadian French ~ Andrew Brown Collection,” Nova Scotia Virtual Archives: Acadian Heartland: Records of the Deportation and Le Grand Dérangement, 1714–1768, Collections of the Nova Scotia Historical Society, Vol. II (1881); pp. 129–160, October 7, 2005, © Public Domain - Nova Scotia Archives.



#1

Historian's account of the Acadian actions against the British



Excerpt from a book written by historian James Hannay entitled *The history of Acadia from its discovery to its surrender to England by the Treaty of Paris*, published in 1879.

Comments in brackets are not part of the original document. They have been added to assist the reader with difficult words.

It was the policy [rule] of Le Loutre to keep the Acadians hostile [unfriendly] to the English His ability to annoy and harass [attack] the English was very great

The garrisons [British soldiers] in the various settlements were dependent [relied on] to a large extent on the good will of the [Acadian] people. (This) gave Le Loutre's agents [followers] an opportunity to create difficulties for the English The Acadians ceased to bring [stopped] any supplies to the English forts, carrying all their surplus provisions [extra supplies] to the French establishments at Beausejour and St. John.

It was evident that some vigorous [drastic] measures must be taken if Acadia was to be saved to England, for the authority of the government was not respected in those places where there was no armed force to maintain it.

James Hannay, *The history of Acadia from its discovery to its surrender to England by the Treaty of Paris* (St. John, NB: J. & A. McMillan, 1879), pp. 373–375, <http://books.google.ca/ebooks?id=1KsOAAAAYAAJ> (Accessed June 20, 2011) © Public Domain.



#2

The game of making scapegoats

Excerpt from a book written by historian Andre Magord entitled The quest for autonomy in Acadia, published in 2008.



Comments in brackets are not part of the original document. They have been added to assist the reader with difficult words.

The arrival of numerous English-speaking colonists was used as a pretext [reason] for the military option and the radical solution of eradication [to get rid of them]. France also had no desire to see Acadians develop their autonomy [independence].

Finally the Acadians agreed to take the unconditional oath of allegiance, but the British authorities would not take this into account [consideration]. The policy of refusal to recognize difference had been established, and the only possible outcome was annihilation [to get rid of them]

The game of making scapegoats [someone to blame] had started. The “other” [Acadian] had to be made worthless in order to justify his elimination [to get rid of]. In the context of the new world, those holding imperial [national] power could no longer tolerate [people] whom they considered to have aspirations [goals] towards emancipation [to gain freedom], even if they were subjugated [conquered and controlled].

André Magord, The quest for autonomy in Acadia (Brussels, Belgium: P. I. E. Peter Lang S. A., 2008), pp. 37–38



#3

Initial refusal to take the oath

Excerpt from a journal article written by historians Anselme Chiasson and Nicolas Landry entitled “History of Acadia,” published in 2012.



Comments in brackets are not part of the original document. They have been added to assist the reader with difficult words.

Acadian representatives were summoned to appear before Governor Charles Lawrence. The representatives initially refused to make the pledge [take the oath]—from the guidance of Father Le Loutre—but ultimately decided to accept. Lawrence, dissatisfied with an oath pledged with reluctance, executed [ordered] the plans for deportation.

The deportation has to be read in the terms of the (whole) situation, and not just on the level of an individual choice made by Lawrence.

He [Lawrence] knew that English troops under General Braddock had just been bitterly defeated by French and Canadian armed forces in the Ohio Valley. Fears of a combined attack by Louisbourg and Canada against Nova Scotia, theoretically joined by the Acadians and the Micmac, explains, to a certain degree, the order for deportation.

Père Anselme Chiasson and Nicolas Landry, “History of Acadia,” The Canadian encyclopedia, 2012.
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