

to hearken to no petitions or entreaties, but to act firmly and promptly. The Acadians were to be allowed to take their money and such household furniture as the vessels could carry; their lands, cattle, and other property were forfeited. Their barns, now filled with the freshly-gathered harvest, and their dwellings were to be burned, so that those who fled to the woods might have little chance of holding out.

The task of removing the Acadians from Canard, Minas, and Grand Pré fell to Colonel Winslow. He did his work thoroughly. Without making known his object, he commanded the men and boys to assemble in their church at Grand Pré on the 5th of September. And now, when all are gathered, the church is surrounded with armed soldiers. Winslow, standing at the altar, reminds the Acadians of the kindness which had been shown their people for half a century, and upbraids them with their ingratitude, closing his address with the startling announcement that they are all the king's prisoners, and that the vessels lie waiting in the harbour which are to convey them out of the country.

A guard was kept around the church to prevent any from escaping. Their families were notified to send them food, and to get ready to leave their homes as soon as possible. A few days after, all went on board the transports in the mouth of the Gaspereaux.

It was a wretched scene in the church at Grand Pré on that 5th September evening, and there was many a sad household around the shores of the Basin of Minas. The morning had dawned with bright prospects on those homes, around which clus-