

dren were bound out as apprentices or servants. Many, with ardent longing for their old homes, in the face of numerous difficulties, found their way back to Nova Scotia. Some, trying to get back by coasting along shore in boats, were stopped on the way.

Indian Murders.— The Indians were still bitter foes to the English and Germans. At Bay Verte they killed nine men who were cutting wood in the forests. On an island in Mahone Bay they killed a man named Payzant and part of his family; his wife and four of his children they carried off to Quebec as captives. In scattered settlements, piles of wood and brush were kept on the hills ready for lighting, as a signal for help in case of an attack. Large rewards were offered by the government for Indian scalps and Indian prisoners.

CHAPTER X.

THE END OF FRENCH POWER IN AMERICA.

Great Britain and France could not agree as to the boundary between their possessions in North America. Out of their disputes there grew a war, known in history as the *Seven Years' War*. As Louisburg was the only ocean port of the French colonies in America, the British thought that by taking it they would deal a severe blow to the power of the enemy, and prepare the way for more conquests. From lack of ability on the part of those in command, the first year's attempt was a failure.

Loudon's Failure, 1757, A.D.— In the summer of 1757 a strong force was collected at Halifax for the purpose of taking Louisburg. Lord Loudon, the commander-in-chief, arrived from New York with transports and soldiers, and Admiral Holborne came from England with eleven ships of the line and fifty transports,