

FRANCE IN THE NEW WORLD COMPLETE SERIES *By John F. Furey M.A., RPA*

FRANCE IN THE NEW WORLD: PART I

INTRODUCTION: HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

How Events In Europe Shaped And Caused Many New World Events: Their Effects On Florida Were Profound 1565-2023

By John F. Furey



Introduction

When Spain claimed and colonized Florida in 1565, Florida slowly became caught up in the web of European History from that date onward. For the first 198 years, Florida was the sole possession of Spain, and they had a free hand in its exploitation. However, in 1754, Britain's attempted to expand its territorial reach into French claimed territory south of the Great Lakes region, then called the Northwest Territory, was the cause of the French and Indian War 1754-1763. The population of the British-American Colonies was about two million while the French population of Canada was about 60,000. This population imbalance caused the French to rely heavily on their native

allies. This conflict in North America led to the European Seven Years War (1756-1763) and, in turn, the Anglo-Spanish War (1762-1763) that involved all of the great European powers. This conflict was won by Britain and its American colonies and culminated in the 1st Treaty of Paris in 1763.

The 1st Treaty of Paris

The 1st Treaty of Paris in 1763 left Canada to the British, France also ceded the territory south of Canada and east of the Mississippi River called the Northwest Territories, and, after 198 years of Spanish rule, Spain ceded Florida to Britain in exchange for Cuba which Britain had attacked and occupied in 1762. Havana was their main seaport and administrative center for its Spanish colonies in the Americas. Spain also ceded Manila in the Philippine's and France received several Caribbean islands. The Florida Territory actually consisted of modern-day Florida, eastern Louisiana, southern Mississippi, and southern Alabama. After the British took Canada in 1755, European French Acadians in Nova Scotia were expelled from Canada and migrated to the French owned part of Louisiana and became the Cajuns of southern Louisiana and Florida's' neighbors.

One of the first edicts Britain announced upon taking control of Florida was that American colonial settlement beyond the mid-point of the Appalachians was forbidden. On October 7, 1763, Britain passed the Indian Proclamation Line Act. By restricting immigration to the west, they hoped to open up Florida to immigration and repopulation, and it avoided British confrontation with the many large Native American tribes in that region and the French who claimed the Louisiana Tract part of the region. Most of the Spanish population of Florida embarked for Cuba as soon as Florida was ceded to Britain leaving only the natives and escaped slaves behind. In 1781, eight years after ceding Florida, Spain attacked and recaptured Pensacola after nine years of British rule, and Britain did not appear willing to contest this Spanish reoccupation of Florida.

Napoleon: The Early Years 1769-1796

Meanwhile in France: Napoleon was born on the Island of Corsica in 1769, entered the Military Academy at Brienne-le-chateau in 1779 at the age of 10, and graduated from the Ecole Militaire in Paris as a 2nd Lieutenant artillery officer in 1786 at age 17. In 1789 he was promoted to Captain and in 1793 captured the city in the of Siege of Toulon. At the age of 26, Napoleon quelled rioters in the streets of Paris in 1798 during the French Revolution with his artillery and was made Brigadier General at age of 26. One year later in 1796 he commanded the French Army in the Italian campaign. He was 27 years old.

1772 England and Other Nations Abolish Slavery

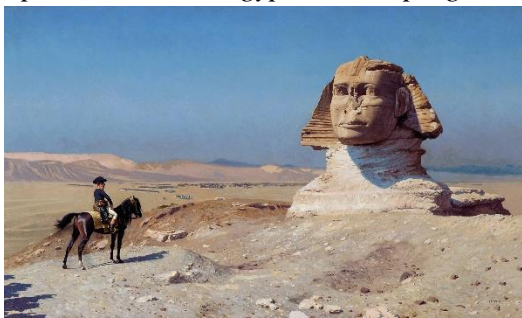
In 1772 England outlawed slavery in England and Wales and in 1799 Scotland as well. Slavery was outlawed there but not in the colonies nor in the territories. In 1807 the Slave Trade Act that outlawed the slave trade itself was passed and sent the Royal Navy to patrol the west African coast to stop the export of slaves. Between 1808 and 1860 the Royal Navy intercepted 1,600 slave ships and freed 150,000 slaves. Many were resettled as free men and women in Jamaica and the Bahamas. On 28 August, 1833 all slavery was abolished to take force on 1 August, 1834 that resulted in the freeing of over 800,000 slaves.

Slavery remained legal in United States after breaking away from Britain and in 1808 the country banned the importation of slaves. Thousands of slaves were still imported through Texas and Florida and illegally moved into the US. Within the United States, the Independent Republic of Vermont in 1777, was the first state to outlaw slavery. When the US Constitution replaced the Articles of Confederation in 1789, slavery was essentially legitimized by counting three-fifths of enslaved people when determining population for congressional representation. Spain first began importing African slaves in 1518 after the deaths of the indigenous natives, only 26 years after the landing of Columbus. It was finally outlawed, 293 years later in 1811. Portugal began importing African slaves to Brazil in 1526, only 34 years after Columbus landed in Hispaniola, and outlawed slavery in 1858, 323 years later. It has been estimated that some 15 million African slaves were brought to the Americas to replace millions of indigenous Indians who were worked to death and died from contracting European pathogens. The large number of slaves brought to the Americas and the population imbalances set the stage for several unsuccessful slave revolts until Haitian success.

Haitian Slave Revolt 1791-1804

In 1791, France received a shock when the slave revolt in Saint Dominique (Haiti) on the Island of Hispaniola successfully erupted and products and revenue going to France from its richest colony dwindled. It began with runaway slaves in the mountains called Maroons raiding the outlying plantations, killing the Europeans, stealing the supplies and weapons, and forcing the slaves to join them in the hills. It became a major insurrection that eventually toppled the government in 1804, and was led by an escaped slave, General Toussaint Louverture. This was not the first slave revolt that took place in the Americas but it was the only successful slave revolution. At the time of the revolution the population of Haiti was 500,000 Black slaves, 32,000 Europeans, and 24,000 free Mulattos. In 1825 France was reeling economically from the Napoleonic Wars and threatened to invade Haiti unless they paid an indemnity of 100 million francs to recognize the county. Haiti agreed to pay the indemnity and it basically bankrupted the new country.

Napoleon and the Egyptian Campaign 1798



After taking the Island of Malta, the capitol Valetta was established as a supply point, and on July 1, 1798 Napoleon and the French army of 50,000 men invaded Egypt to chase out the Turkish Mamelukes. He had missed his opportunity in 1796-97 to invade England but the army that he organized was then employed to invade Egypt for economic warfare to block the flow of goods from India to England. Still reeling at the loss of their Haitian colony, they would get another colony that did not involve the use of slaves. In August 1798, the British fleet found the French fleet at

Alexandria at anchor and, under Admiral Nelson, attacked in the late afternoon surprising the French and sinking most of the French fleet with much of the supplies and funds for the army ashore. After defeating the Mameluke Turks in Egypt, Napoleon turned his army north and invaded Syria. After his defeat at Acre, where the British fleet supplied the Turks, the French army returned to Alexandria, Egypt. Napoleon sent word to France about all the wonderful things that they found and proclaimed himself a hero.

The French Revolution 1798

Napoleon abandoned the army in Egypt to their fate and returned to France on a small ship. The timing was perfect as Napoleon arrived as a hero in France. He joined a small group of revolutionaries when the French

Revolution broke out in 1798, and in 1799 Napoleon led a coup and become the First Council of France. France was a republic in chaos but Napoleon quickly created a state with stable finances, a strong bureaucracy, and a well-trained army. France dominated the continent militarily and he created the Continental System to isolate all trade with Britain. Under the Continental System, all of the countries could trade with each other but not Britain.

Sale of The Louisiana Territory 1803-1804

Napoleon asked Spain to cede the Florida Territories to France and they refused. Without the Florida Territory, Napoleon felt that New Orleans was undefendable so he offered the Louisiana purchase to the Americans. Additionally, Napoleon needed money to expand his army after the military loss in Egypt and the colony of Haiti, and in 1803, offered to sell the Louisiana Territory, including New Orleans, to the United States for \$15 million dollars. The US agreed and the deal was completed in 1804. The acquisition of the Louisiana Territory more than doubled the size of the US.

The Napoleonic Wars 1803-1815

In 1807 Napoleon invaded Portugal through Spain, Britain's only remaining ally in continental Europe. Portugal would not commit to the Continental System and Spain, while committed, refused to actually maintain it. After occupying Lisbon in November 1807 and with his army in Spain, Napoleon turned on his ally and deposed the reigning Spanish Royal Family and in 1808 installed his brother as Jose I, King of Spain. Both the Spain and Portugal revolted against this and, with the help of Britain, expelled the French from the Iberian Peninsula in 1814 after six years of war.

The Battle of Trafalgar 1805

The combined fleets of France and Spain were moored in the Bay of Cadiz off the Spanish coast and were planning to sail to Naples, Italy but were waiting for fair winds and weather to embark. When the seaborne invasion of England was cancelled, some of the French fleet sailed to Egypt in 1798 and most were lost to the British fleet led by Nelson at the Battle of Alexandria. The remainder joined the combined French/Spanish fleet in the Bay of Cadiz. They were preparing to break out of the British blockade of the coast and sail to Naples to assist the French army that was struggling in Italy. On the morning of 19 October, 1805 this combined fleet sailed out and on the evening of 20 October, 1805 the two fleets cautiously approached each other. The combined fleet had hoped to avoid battle and reach the Mediterranean Sea but Nelson caught the fleet off of Cape Trafalgar on 21 October. Admiral Nelson organized his ships into two lines and attacked the combined French/Spanish Fleet by driving into the French/Spanish line of ships and severing their fleet into two. This left the heavy main battleships that led the fleet out of the anchorage separated from the smaller ships in the rear of the column, and the smaller ships could be engaged and sunk individually before the main battleships could turn around upwind and engage the British. The Combined fleet lost 19 or 20 of its 33 ships and Nelson lost none of his 27 ships. France and Spain would never again challenge Britain for naval mastery of the seas. Nelson was mortally wounded near the end of the battle by a sniper and was memorialized by the erection of Nelsons' Monument in London. Even after the battle many of the British ships had to remain on blockade duty blockading Cadiz and other European ports. Britain used its 900-ship navy to blockade the continent and certain colonies severing these countries from trade with their colonies and overseas possessions.

1806-1807 The Non-Importation Act and The US Embargo

During the Napoleonic Wars, Britain and to a lesser degree France, interfered with neutral American shipping by stopping ships and impressing American Sailors into their navy. These sailors had been born in Britain and/or had previously served on a British warship, but were now Americans. To get the two warring nations of Britain and France to cease this interference and respect American neutrality, Congress passed the Non-Importation Act which forbid the importation of certain British goods. A list of banned items was established but Britain did not stop impressing American sailors and Americans were not happy at not being able to purchased many of these items, and the Act was unenforceable. President Jefferson suspended the act in March 1807. The Non-Importation Act was replaced by the Embargo Act in 1807 and in 1808 it too was rescinded and replaced in 1809 by the Non-Intercourse Act. All of these incidents were leading to war with Britain.

1812-1813 Napoleon: Russia, The Battle of Friedland, The Battle of Leipzig, and Exile in Elba



On October 14, 1806 Napoleon achieved a great victory at the battle of Jena, in Saxony, modern day central Germany, when his army was able to engage the Prussian army before it could meet up with its Russian allies. The Russian army escaped while the retreating Prussian army was hounded down. One year later on June 14, 1807, Napoleon finally engaged the Russian army at the battle of Friedland in East Prussia and beat them. As part of the settlement, Russia and the Baltic States were forced to accept the Continental System of Trade that Napoleon introduced. But, by 1812, Russia was bearing a great economic price by the inability to trade outside the Continental System and violated it

repeatedly, angering Napoleon who promptly invaded Russia in 1812. This campaign was a great disaster and resulted in the loss of the Grande Armée on its winter retreat from Moscow. Napoleons' great defeat and the loss of the army in Russia, emboldened Russia, Austria, Prussia, and Sweden to form the Sixth Coalition in a campaign against France. In June 1813, Spain, Portugal, and Britain invaded Southern France after pushing the French out of the Iberian Peninsula. In October 1813 Napoleon lost the Battle of Leipzig to the Sixth Coalition. He returned to France where France was pressured from the north by the Sixth Coalition and invaded from the south by the Fifth Coalition consisting of: Spain, Portugal, and Britain. The end came quickly, and in early 1814 Napoleon abdicated and in May was exiled to the Island of Elba.

America and Britain Experience Conflict/ The War of 1812

While Britain was busy blockading European and Caribbean ports, battling the French fleet at Alexandria, Egypt and the combined French and Spanish fleet at Trafalgar, the United States had built the second largest merchant fleet in the world. As a neutral country it was carrying on trade with both combatants, had absorbed much of the Caribbean trade, and its international trade had increased five hundred percent. Many British seamen had deserted the Royal Navy, become Americans, and had found berths in the expanded American merchant fleet where the Royal Navy's brutal discipline, lifelong terms of service, and poor pay were nonexistent. Fully forty-percent of America sailors had been born in England or Ireland. Despite the Non-Importation Act and the Embargo Act, as a warning to Britain, between 1796 and 1812 the British impressed 9,991 American sailors from the merchant fleet.

To recapture trade with the continent by neutrals, Britain in 1807 passed an Order in Council, the first one of 14, that neutral ships must call at a British port, unload, be inspected, and pay a 25 per-cent customs duty before going on to enemy ports. Failure to do so would cause the ship to be seized. The Embargo Act was repealed a few days before President Jefferson's term expired and Madison's began. By 1811 war fever was in the air with Britain and with the fear of warfare with the Native Americans to the west of the Appalachian Mountains whom the British were already arming. A deadly attack on Tecumseh's capitol at Tippecanoe served to drive the Native Americans closer to the British and a Declaration of War against Britain on June 18, 1812 was proposed and it passed the Senate 17 to 13 with only New England dissenting. Britain, by now, had rescinded the Orders in Council but it was too late; by the time the news reached America, hostilities had already broken out along the Canadian border and with the Indians. Napoleon's loss in Russia and his imminent abdication freed up British ships and men to be used against the Americans.

With the abdication of Napoleon, European ports opened for trade, the Orders in Council were repealed, and the cessation of the Royal Navy impressing American sailors, all of the reasons for declaring war on Britain, were effectively gone. Peace talks could begin. The freeing up of British soldiers and their fleet caused great worry among the American negotiators in Ghent who were considering a peace treaty to end the war as these assets could now be brought to bear in the Americans.

The American position was to agree upon the definition of blockade and neutral rights and compensation to individuals for captures before and during the war and Ghent was chosen as a neutral site for the location for talks. The British counterproposal was the surrender of the Maine district of Massachusetts, the British called it

“a small corner of Maine”, the creation of a 250,000 square-mile Indian buffer state in the Old Northwest that would encompass present-day Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, and much of Ohio and Minnesota. This would block much of the northern access of the Americans to the Louisiana Purchase. Additionally, the right to dry codfish on Canadian shores was to be relinquished, was added to their terms. They later added dropping the Canadian border by 100 miles, renounce fishing rights off of Newfoundland, cede Louisiana to Spain, cease all trade with the British West Indies, and the exclusion of all shipping on the Great Lakes. When the American negotiating team inquired if the Indians could sell their land the answer was that the Americans could not buy it. The extent of Britain’s demands ensured that there would be war, and with the lessening of the European conflict with Napoleon, more of the British army and navy became available.

The war of 1812: The British: June 18, 1812-February 17, 1815

Spanish Florida was mostly a backwater during the War of 1812. Spain was neutral in the war and had organized Florida into two regions: East Florida with its headquarters in St. Augustine and West Florida with its headquarters in Pensacola. Most of the initial actions of the war took place in the northern Indian Territories where the British armed and incited the Indians against the Americans. With troops freed up from the Napoleonic Wars, Britain rushed 30,000 troops to defend Canada. General Burgoyne moved down the Hudson Valley in New York but was routed and retreated back to Canada. Some other skirmishes along the Canadian border took place but there were no major movements and the war there was a stalemate. Much of the war during 1813 was focused at sea between the navies of the warring nations and the US had a few major victories that helped sustain the war effort, and where the legend of Old Ironsides was born.

In August 1814 the British landed troops on the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay meaning to capture Baltimore, but with Washington largely undefended, they attacked Washington. On August 24, 1814 British troops beat the Americans defending Washington at the Battle of Bladensburg and burned Washington. Returning to the Chesapeake, Baltimore was attacked but the British were repulsed. On September 13/14, they attacked Fort McHenry in the harbor. The British failure to invest the fort was memorialized by Francis Scott Key with his Star-Spangled Banner poem. The British fleet then departed with 1,200 troops to their offshore staging area at Fort Albion located on Tangier Island off the coast of Virginia.

The British: The Fort on the Apalachicola River and Pensacola

A British flotilla anchored in the mouth of the Apalachicola River 200 (321 km) miles east of Pensacola and party of Royal Marines under Colonel Nichols, was sent upriver to build a fort at a 40-foot-high (12 m) ridge on a curve on the river called Prospect Bluff. With four long twenty-four pounder cannons, four long six-pounders, one four-pound field piece and a five-and-a-half-inch howitzer, the fort controlled all traffic on the river. The Apalachicola River drained the Flint and Chattahoochee Rivers that were the outlet for shipping cotton to the Gulf of Mexico from western Georgia and eastern Alabama. Over time the British assembled hundreds of Indians and runaway Blacks at the site to build the fort and continued enlisting Blacks and Indians into the British Army and trained them to be a part of their force and to man the fort. This would become their main sanctuary base on the Gulf Coast.

Colonel Nichols sent a squadron of five warships with a mixed force of Royal Marines, Blacks, and Creek Indians to Pensacola. The British disembarked in late August and occupied Pensacola and Fort San Miguel one mile from the city. After problems with the Spanish Governor, Mateo Gonzalez Manrique, they relocated to Fort San Carlos a few miles west of the city. As a part of their strategy, the British began enlisting more Blacks and Indian into their ranks to bolster their numbers. Local American troops were outnumbered and left for Mobile. The British heard that Jackson had left his base at Mobile and was marching on Pensacola in Spanish Florida and, as Jackson approached Pensacola, they destroyed the defenses of the city and chose not to engage Jacksons force.

The British: Mobile Bay and the 1st Battle of Fort Bowyer: 1814

The British army in Spanish West Florida, had been expanding the size of their force by signing up Blacks and Indians into their ranks and this expansion of its’ force posed a serious threat to the Americans in the south. The

British fort on the Apalachicola River blocked that river and the flotilla of ships that accompanied these forces presented a threat to Mobile Bay. On November 6, 1814 Jackson arrived from Mobile to the outskirts of Pensacola with a mixed force of about 4,000 men. Fresh from his victory over the Red Stick Creeks at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend on the Alabama River he had been promoted to Major General and by displacing the Red Stick Creeks had added 23,000,000 million acres of land to the United States. Jackson was too late to attack the British in Pensacola; they blew up Fort San Carlos, several coastal defensive installations, embarked on their ships and returned to the mouth of the Apalachicola River before Jackson could engage them.

The British squadron left Pensacola in September 1814 with about 800 plus men and sailed westward and headed toward Mobile Bay and Fort Bowyer. Control of Mobile Bay, much like the control of the Apalachicola River, controlled access to the Gulf of Mexico from four major rivers: the Tombigbee, Alabama, Coosa, and Tallapoosa Rivers. All these rivers were critical to many of the cotton producing regions to ship their cotton to the Gulf and on to market. A convoy of ships with British troops had sailed from Ireland for New Orleans in the Fall of 1814 and taking New Orleans would give the British control of the Mississippi River which along with control of Mobile Bay and the Apalachicola River would block all of the southern cotton exports to the Gulf of Mexico. The squadron that left Pensacola attacked Fort Bowyer in September 1814, were repulsed and left. The HMS Hermes had grounded off the fort, had to be evacuated, and set on fire and they returned to the mouth of the Apalachicola River.

The British: The Battle of Lake Borgne: 1814

To the east of Lake Borgne and Lake Pontchartrain 60 British ships anchored in the Gulf of Mexico. They had sailed from Bermuda and contained Wellington's "Invincibles" as a part of the army. The Battle of New Orleans was fought on January 8, 1815 and took place 15 days after the Treaty of Ghent was signed. The New Orleans campaign actually started on December 14 at the Battle of Lake Borgne when British marines, in 42 rowboats with cannonade, attacked five American gunboats guarding access to the lakes. All five gunboats attacked were taken by the British marines and the landing beaches for General Pakenham's troops were secured. It took six days and nights to ferry 1600 troops to Pea Island (possibly now Pearl Island), and because not enough shallow draft boats were available, only 2,000 men at a time could be brought to shore.

The British: The Battle of New Orleans: 1814-15

The British approached the city on December 23 with a vanguard of about 1,800 troops and halted at the Villere Plantation 4 miles before the city to wait for reinforcements. That evening Jackson attacked the vanguard and then retreated to a position on the Rodriguez Canal to transform the canal into a fortified earthwork. On December 25th General Pakenham arrived with the main body of the army and two days later he received nine large naval guns. On January 8, Pakenham ordered a two-pronged frontal assault on Jacksons' line. One prong was to cross the Mississippi River and flank Jacksons' position while the other was to attack the Rodriguez Canal position. The flanking movement failed as the troops could not cross the canal nor climb the fortified embankment. The frontal assault failed as row upon row of British troops were mowed down by grapeshot with many of the officers fatally shot, including General Pakenham. British losses were reported at 2,459, approximately twenty-seven to thirty percent of the army of 8,000-9,000 men and 600 British prisoners were taken. American losses were 333 of an estimated force of 4,700 men. It was claimed that Jackson's victory was mainly due to his artillery using grapeshot and American marksmanship behind a fortified position. Poor British planning, communication, and frontal assaults on a fortified position with cannons were other factors in the British loss of the battle. The Battle of New Orleans actually lasted a month from the initial Battle at Lake Borgne on 12 December to the initial raid beginning on 25 December and the final British attack on 8 January. British withdrawal to their boats took until 4 February 1814 and then sailed 100 miles east to Dauphin Island at the mouth of Mobile Bay.

Had the British won, it has been said that the fleet of ships also contained a complete compliment of a colonial government ready to assume control of New Orleans after the battle, to declare it British, renounce the Louisiana Purchase and claim it, claim East and West Florida from Spain, and renounce the Treaty of Ghent.

This would have effectively blocked the United States from the Gulf and from Florida. Pakenham was to be Governor of the Crown Colony of Louisiana and other officials were on board to claim sovereignty on behalf of Britain and Spain. In August 1814, Pakenham had been given secret orders to continue the war even if he heard rumors of peace and the Treaty of Ghent, though signed, had not yet been ratified by the American Congress when the battle took place.

The British: After the Battle of New Orleans

On February 4, 1815, the British fleet finished embarking the army from its defeat at New Orleans and sailed for Mobile Bay. They immediately brought Fort Bowyer under cannon fire and took the fort in the Second Battle of Ft. Bowyer. Plans were being made to attack Mobile when news of the Peace Treaty of Ghent arrived. The force then sailed for the Apalachicola River to pick up the Royal Marines left behind to build and man the fort on the river. The British paid for any damages that they had caused in Pensacola and for any items that they had confiscated. In the spring of 1815, the British paid off the Negroes and Indians that they had recruited at the fort and the remaining British Marines evacuated the fort and Florida. The purposely left behind a well-stocked fort with cannon, rifle, ammunition, and a large amount of ball and gun powder for the hundreds of Negroes and Indians who continued to man the fort, now called the Negro Fort by the Americans.

The Treaty of Ghent: 1814

American and British negotiators signed the Treaty of Ghent on December 22, 1814. It remained that the US Congress was required to ratify it and on February 16, 1815 it actually took effect. Before the treaty was agreed to, Britain received the news that the British army under Burgoyne had been turned back up the Hudson River to Canada, the British squadron on Lake Champlain had been defeated, repulsed at Baltimore and Fort McHenry and these military failures loomed over the delegation. The cost of the Napoleonic War, the blockading of the European and American coasts, and now the cost of the war with the Americans were straining the British treasury. After the ratification, word of Jackson's victory at New Orleans stunned the British at the loss of over 2,000 men and the withdrawal of their fleet from America. After more than two decades of warfare, the world was suddenly at peace.

The Return of Napoleon: 1815

Peace was to prove to be short lived. A full two weeks after the Treaty of Ghent was signed and ratified, Napoleon landed in the south of France on 20 March 1815 after eleven months of captivity on the Island of Elba, bound for Waterloo and a rendezvous 100 days later with the Duke of Wellington. Britain and the rest of Europe were back at war again. Napoleon arrived with about 1,000 men under his command and as he marched toward Paris he was joined by many others. Prisoners of war had recently been repatriated to France and Napoleon saw this as a huge army of men who were already trained, had marched with him before, and were experienced. He soon had an army. Regular French units that were sent to stop him joined him instead. On March 13, 1815, seven days before Napoleon reached Paris, the Congress of Vienna declared Napoleon an outlaw and Austria, Prussia, Russia, and Britain agreed to each field an army of 150,000 men.

The Americans: After the Battle

The aftermath of the Battle of New Orleans was to make Andrew Jackson a national hero all of which served him for later political offices, including president. The loss of the battle was to force the British to abide by the Treaty of Ghent and precluded them from any meddling in the affairs of the United States. The battle also created a wave of patriotism that had not previously united the thirteen states. It also officially opened up the 1803 Louisiana Purchase that had not had much immigration in the last eleven years because of the uncertainty of the British, the Indians, and the outcome of the war. The retreat of the British also left Spanish Florida as the only remaining European power controlling land that the Americans had its eyes upon.

The success at the Battle of New Orleans also set the stage for the expansion of cotton production in the Louisiana Purchase lands and the greater need for more Black slaves. Full control of the ports at New Orleans and Mobile now meant that the river shipment of export cotton to the Gulf of Mexico was assured. All that remained is the access through the Apalachicola River past the Negro Fort and the threat of armed slaves and Indians just south of the Florida border

The Negro Fort on the Apalachicola River

After their loss at the Battle of New Orleans in January 1815, the British maintained a force of Royal Marines at the fort on the Apalachicola River in Spanish Florida, 200 miles east of Pensacola under Colonel Nichols. He had collected over 3,500 fighters at the fort and in the surrounding towns, consisting of Black escaped slaves, Creeks and Seminoles and was preparing to invade the United States up the Apalachicola. Additionally, many Blacks and Indians had fully enlisted in the British army and had been promised land, pay, and British citizenship. In February of 1815 when news of the ratification of the Treaty of Ghent arrived, invasion plans were scrapped, and the British prepared to withdraw. Britain and Spain were still allies after the Napoleonic War and when the British left, they left behind a well-stocked fort of firearms, cannon, ball, and powder for the Blacks and Indians that they had enlisted and trained. The Spanish may have had hopes of occupying the fort for themselves after the British left but they did not have the ability to displace the new defenders of the fort. The fort was considered a military threat by the United States because of the number of armed former slaves and Indians and the control of the river that the fort commanded. The slave owners clamored for the government to forcibly return the slaves to their rightful owners and eliminate the fort because it attracted runaways.

Waterloo and the Island of St. Helena: 1815

Napoleon moved his army to the north west of Paris in to present day Belgium to engage the British army before the Prussian army could join with them. On Sunday 18 June 1815 the French attacked over and over all day but the forces of the British, under the Duke of Wellington were able to hold the line and the French could not dislodge them from the high ground or turn their flank. Late that afternoon as if from nowhere, the Prussian army under Field Marshal Blucher showed up on the right flank of the French and the battle was lost. Napoleon fled to Paris but was concerned that the Prussians would execute him if captured. Instead, Napoleon abdicated and surrendered to British Captain Frederick Maitland of HMS Bellerophon and he was transported to England. In October 1815, he was transported to the Island of St. Helena in exile where he died 6 years later on 5 May 1821 at the age of 51. The continent was again at peace.

The Treaty of Paris 1815

After the defeat of Napoleon for the second time, the Treaty of Paris in 1815 was signed on 20 November 1815 by the four major warring nations: Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia and imposed greater penalties on France than the Treaty of 1814. France lost territory, was ordered to pay 700 million francs in indemnities in five-year installments, maintain at its expense a coalition of 150,000 soldiers of occupation for five years, and required the restoration of the Bourbon King Louis XVIII. A final article in the treaty required the abolition of the slave trade. After three years in 1818, Wellington ended the occupation of foreign troops in France as unnecessary.

The Negro Fort on the Apalachicola River: Destruction 1815



The slave owners in Alabama and Georgia continually lobbied the government to eliminate and destroy the Negro Fort by force using the US Army as they continued to lose slaves into Spanish Florida. The location of the fort on the heights commanded the river but the defenders also had built several types of watercraft and armed two of them with small cannons. They raided foreign boats on the Gulf from their base on the lower Apalachicola River seizing all that were not British. They also seized Dog Island, at the mouth of the river, and guarded the entrance to the river from the Gulf. They continued to expand the defenses of the fort and the surrounding area this made it extremely risky and costly to attack the fort by land. Their ill treatment of Spanish Traders coming upriver added Spanish voices to the American voices speaking up against the fort, however, Spain was unable to militarily challenge the fort.

Rumors that Britain was looking to purchase East and West Florida from Spain abounded, however, most Americans believed that both East and West Florida would eventually be a part of the United States. When that

would happen in the future was anyone's guess but few wanted to wait until then to deal with the Negro Fort to regain their slaves and reopen the river traffic to the Gulf of Mexico. The Indian problem had been resolved with the elimination of the Creeks by General Jackson and the US Military force, why not then this problem also. By now, slavery had become a normalized part of the US and was codified in the laws and the Federal Government. When there were two separate armed uprisings in East and West Spanish Florida in 1810, President James Madison provided financial and some military support to foster them proving that Madison was not against intervention, but both failed.

Jackson assigned the task of the destruction of the Negro Fort to General Gaines and his first step was the establishment of Fort Gaines on the Eastern Shore of the Chattahoochee River in Georgia about 50 miles north of the Florida line and station a battalion of the US 4th Infantry Regiment there. Gaines devised a plan to send the 4th Infantry Regiment down the river to the Florida line and thence down the river toward the fort and, at the same time, US Navy Commodore Daniel Patterson from the naval station at New Orleans would send a convoy of supply vessels and gunboats up the Apalachicola River. The convoy would sail past the Negro Fort with the hope of initiating a confrontation and a battle. During the last week of May 1815 Jackson sent an emissary to see the Governor Zuninga of West Florida to notify him that the US was planning to destroy the fort. Zuninga agreed that the fort needed to be destroyed.

Preparations were complete in June 1816 and the convoy of vessels would rendezvous at Bay St Louis and then sail for the mouth of the Apalachicola River as the 4th Infantry Regiment began its march south toward the fort along with their Creek and Choctaw allies who led the way. The army arrived at the fort on 20 July and came under immediate but ineffective fire from the fort. The Union Jack flew over the fort indicating that the defenders of the fort considered themselves British.

On 27 July 1815 the gunboats from the flotilla positioned themselves next to a battery position that the army had created and began a cannon and artillery duel with the fort. The duel lasted about an hour when a lucky heated shot fired from Gunboat 154 landed in the gunpowder magazine of the fort containing an estimated 100 barrels of gunpowder. Instantly the fort was blown up along with all of the defenders that was estimated at 325 fighters along with 200 men, women and children that were located next to the fort and it was claimed that the sound was heard 100 miles away. Many of the survivors of the blast were mortally wounded and the Indians began killing and scalping them. The cannons, powder, ball, and shot were equally divided between the army and navy and all of the remaining materials were given to the Indian allies for their assistance. As a runaway slave catching and returning enterprise this was a dismal failure as less than two dozen Negroes survived unharmed. Those living in the surrounding area fled. The fort that "posed a significant threat to the peace and safety of the southern frontier" was no more.

The Battle of Negro Fort: Aftermath

A fugitive slave sanctuary in West Florida was unacceptable to the American people and the destruction of Negro Fort was a boon to American slaveowners as it eliminated a sanctuary for runaway slaves, but it also created a precedent of the federal government supporting slavery and the expansion of slavery. The destruction of the fort ended the last bit of military and trade influence Britain had in the Gulf region. It also eliminated the possibility of a continual supply of weapons and ammunition available to Indians to oppose their removal to Indian Territory in Oklahoma. Many felt that East and West Florida should have been seized from Spain in the last war and many of these problems would have then been solved. The capture of so few Negroes at the fort and the escape of many of the Negro slaves from the surrounding area near the fort angered Jackson and southerners as the invasion of Spanish West Florida was depicted as causing the return of many slaves. Little was heard of the return of all the slaves from the fort because so few survived and such a small number were captured; some considered the silence of the destruction of the Negro Fort as a cover-up. The Seminole Indians in Florida were ordered to round up Black escaped slaves up in Florida and return them to the United States at Fort Gaines. If the Seminoles refused to comply with this order, they were threatened with sending thousands of Creeks into Florida to do the job. The hunt for Negro slaves in Spanish Florida, now called Maroons, was about to commence.

Where did many of these escaped slaves go? One early group had left the sanctuary of the fort prior to the attack by the Americans and went to Tampa, Florida. Others moved south and east in Florida and formed their own communities while others joined with Seminole Indian groups. The Seminoles had long had good relations with the British but felt that the Spanish backed the American cause of return of slaves, many that they possessed, and would use it as an excuse to invade and make war on the Seminoles. Seminole chiefs were being ordered to capture and return runaway slaves, but not all slaves were American runaways, and how do you know who is who? Many problems with the Muscogee Seminoles in Northern Florida were caused by American 'Freebooters' taking land, livestock, women, slaves, and murdering the Seminoles, and nothing was being done about that. The Seminoles and Maroons continued to receive weapons from the British traders that continued to travel within Florida. It was this news of British traders arming the Indians and Maroons that convinced the American government to act.

Spanish Florida Invaded Again: The 1st Seminole War 1817-18

In December of 1817 General Jackson was ordered to take command of the military in the southern Georgia region by the Secretary of War, John C. Calhoun. After gathering enough men and supplies Jackson would lead the third American invasion of Spanish Florida in four years. Jackson's first stop was at the site of the Negro Fort where he ordered a new fort to be built and it was named Fort Gadsden after Lieutenant James Gadsden who was tasked with the rebuilding of the fort. The new fort erased the Negro Fort, controlled the river, reassured the military and plantation owners that the Negroes could not rebuild it, and acted as a base from which Jackson's troops could operate to catch runaway slaves. So began the First Seminole War. In April 1818, Jackson with 1,500 militia, 700 army regulars, and 800 Creek warriors invaded Miccosukee chasing the Indians into the woods and destroying their villages and gardens. After attacking several Seminole villages, destroying them and capturing some Indians and Negroes they then turned westward and captured Pensacola and ended the 1st Seminole War. Seminole leaders headed by Neamathla met with Governor Duval and Diplomat James Gadsden signed the Treaty of Moultrie Creek in September 1823 that called for all Seminoles to move to a 4-million-acre area in south central Florida. The Indians had three years to move and the government would provide money and material.

Florida Becomes Part of the US: 1819

For Spain, Florida had been nothing but trouble and was costly to maintain for a relatively poor country after the invasion by the French and six years of the Peninsula War. Continuing border disputes with the United States, Jackson's incursion into Florida at the Negro Fort and the 1st Seminole War were ongoing military and diplomatic problems confronting the Spanish Government of Florida. Anti Indian policies in the United States were pushing Muscogee and Creek Indians into Florida as well as escaped slaves since Spain had outlawed slavery in 1693. A secret agreement by the US Congress in 1811 said that the US should support uprisings in Florida and support white migration. The US encouraged white settlers, called 'Patriots' to move into Florida where they clashed with the Seminoles and pushed them further south and into less desirable land creating further problems for the Spanish. Spain began to feel that they would be better off without Florida and moved to negotiate a settlement with the United States.

In 1819 the Adams Onis Treaty with Spain was signed on February 22, 1819. Spain would cede Florida to the United States. The US would assume all financial compensation claims against Florida, the treaty would go all the way to the Pacific Ocean which cleared up some disputes in the Pacific and Pacific Northwest, and Spanish ships were allowed to call and dock at St. Augustine and Pensacola. There were two ceremonies turning over Florida to the US: one in St. Augustine on 10 July and in Pensacola on 17 July 1821. It was now official.

Jackson is Appointed Governor of Florida and is Elected President

With Florida about to become a US possession it was organized as a territory. In May 1821 Andrew Jackson was appointed Governor of Florida, but had to wait two months until the turnover ceremonies between Spain and the United States were completed on 10 and 17 July to actually take command. Jackson lasted eleven weeks in the position and went through a tumultuous period overturning all the Spanish laws and inserting American

laws. He then resigned and returned to Nashville. William Pope Duval was named Governor replacing Jackson. In Nashville, Jackson ran for President but lost the 1824 election to John Quincy Adams. In the election of 1828 Jackson won the post and served from 1829-1837. It was in 1830 that Jackson signed the Indian Removal Act to force all Indians off their land and west of the Mississippi River. This effected all Native Americans, even their Indian allies, from New York to Alabama and resulted in the Cherokee Trail of Tears.

The Second Seminole War: 1835-42

The Treaty of Payne's Landing in 1832 called for the removal of the Seminoles from the territory in central Florida that they had just been granted by the 1823 Treaty of Moultrie Creek and transported to the Indian Territory west of the Mississippi River. The Indians said that they would go but needed time. They delayed moving over and over and were granted time rather than engage in direct hostilities until the government had had enough. Large numbers of the military were brought into Florida to force the Seminoles to relocate and open hostilities broke out. Minor skirmishes were commonplace and the army had a terrible time chasing the Seminoles in the swamps where they would hide. It became such a costly war that the treasury was stretched tight and, in 1842 with presumably only a few hundred Seminoles left, the government declared victory and ended the war.

Florida Forts



During the 1st and 2nd Seminole wars over 80 blockhouses, camps, forts, and stockades were built by the US Military to fight the Seminoles. Many of them still have the fort in their name such as: Fort Basinger, Lauderdale, Meade, Myers, Pierce, Walton, and White. Others dropped the word fort as a part of their name: Dade City, Denaud, Jupiter, and Maitland while others totally changed their names: Fort Brooke, became Tampa, Fort Blount became Bartow, Fort Harrison became Clearwater, and Fort Dallas became Miami. The building and maintenance of these forts was expensive and a major drain on the US Treasury.

The Third Seminole War 1855-1858

Peace with the Seminoles reigned for eleven years until one night Colonel Harney and the men of his survey party snuck into Chief Billy Bowlegs banana plantation and trashed his entire crop. This caused a renewal of hostilities and the Third Seminole War was also called Billy Bowleg's War. This gave the government an excuse to resume their efforts to relocate the Seminoles, and for three more years it continued. Billy Bowlegs was captured along with 40 of his warriors and on 7 May 1855 they agreed to relocate. The Seminoles were tracked down with bloodhounds and another 165 were captured and relocated. Again with 200-300 estimated remaining in the Big Cypress and other swamps, the government again declared victory and ended the war. Florida is Admitted to the Union in 1845: 16 Years Later in 1861 it Succeeds and Joins the Confederacy

On March 3 1845 Florida was admitted to the Union and was immediately nicknamed "The Sunshine State". It was decided to bring Florida in as a single state and not as East and West Florida as Spain had divided Florida and as a slave state and the first governor was John Branch. On 10 January 1861 Florida was one of six original states to vote to succeed and join the Confederacy and on 11 January it was formally signed. Slave owning planters in the north of the state had agitated and called on the Tallahassee government to leave the Union and every grievance that was brought up had to do with slavery and a fear of Northern Domination over their 'peculiar institution'. The actual vote to succeed was a difference of only seven percent (6,994 vs. 5,248) which indicated that a sizable majority of Florida voters were not for succession but the final delegation to ratify was packed with secessionists.

Florida had the smallest population of all the states that joined the Confederacy but was highly important with its coastline and harbors for smuggling foreign weapons and providing beef, pork, sugar, and salt to the army and it was called the 'Supplier to the Confederacy'. Most of the Americans entering Florida had no slaves and

the vast majority of slaves were held by a small number of large wealthy planters centered in north Florida. Florida had a population of about 140,400 of which about 62,000 (44%) were slaves. Slavery was technically abolished in 1863 by Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation but it was not until spring of 1865 when the Confederacy lost the war and there were no longer any slave catchers and authorities to enforce slavery that it actually ended. During the war the Union Navy blockaded the coast of Florida to prevent trade with Cuba and Europe and occupied the ports of Apalachicola, Cedar Key Jacksonville, Key West, and Pensacola. Many of the forts that were erected in the Seminole wars were reoccupied and improved. Despite the naval blockade and the number of occupied forts, no major military engagements took place in Florida during the Civil War and the Seminoles did not participate and the Confederate Florida government offered them aid to keep them from fighting on the side of the Union and attempted to get them to fight on the side of the Confederacy. All of the Florida military volunteers fought outside Florida. The federal government has never attempted to relocate the Florida Seminoles again.

Florida adopted a new Constitution after the Civil War during Reconstruction that provided the Seminoles with a single seat in both the State House and Senate: the Seminoles never filled them. Immediately after federal oversight of Reconstruction in Florida ended, Florida drafted a new Constitution in 1885 that eliminated these provisions for the Seminoles. The Seminoles had adapted to a wetland environment and in the early 20th century sold alligator skins, bird plumes, and other items sourced in the Everglades to make a living. The Federal Government outlawed the bird plume trade in 1903 under the Lacey Act and began draining the Everglades for large scale farming and this impacted canoe travel and their subsistence way of life.

The Seminoles Today: Reservations

In the 1930's the government gave the Cow Creek Seminoles 5,000 acres for a reservation in Brighton, Florida to raise cattle and provided the cattle for a starter herd. In 1958 the Hollywood Reservation was established on 497 acres and became their headquarters. Big Cypress Reservation was established in 1974 with 360 acres and in 1980 the Tampa Reservation was established on 9 acres. Just outside the Big Cypress Reservation the tribe established the Immokalee Reservation on 595 acres and in 1995 the Fort Pierce Reservation on 50 acres was established. Hotels and casinos were built at the Hollywood, Immokalee, and Tampa Reservations and the tribe owns and runs the Hard Rock Casino/Hotel brand. The Brighton Reservation has become a very well known for the cattle breeding program that they started and holds an annual well-known rodeo for the Seminole cowboys.

The Seminoles Today: Federal Recognition



In 1957 the Seminole tribe of Florida received federal recognition and it was not until 1962 that the Miccosukee Tribe of Florida received Federal Recognition and recognition by the state of Florida was not granted until 1967. Today the tribes are considered sovereign nations but in the 1950's the Federal Government sought to terminate the 'Trustee' relationship it had with the tribes and abrogate all of the treaties that it had signed with the Seminole over the years. This was a direct attempt to erase their culture, indigenous rights, and to let the government walk away from all of its treaty responsibilities. It was characterized as "if you can't change them, absorb them until they

simply disappear into the mainstream culture". Today the Seminoles have continued their culture, languages, and way of life as they wish to live it. They have a growing population and an economic system that is a positive influence in the state of Florida and they refuse to be marginalized.

FRANCE IN THE NEW WORLD PART II

SAINT DOMINIQUE-HAITI

The First Successful Black Slave Revolution

Introduction and Postscript By John F. Furey

It was the attached article by H. Lewis Smith that inspired me to write the France in the New World series of articles about French colonies and their back-and-forth possession by different European powers based upon the outcome of their many wars. The first article, the Introduction and overview article provides a historical backdrop for the European events that shaped much of the New World: the Americas. The remaining articles deal with specific French colonies: how they began and their eventual loss. During this time France went from a major landholding colonial power: Florida, the Maritimes, Canada, the Louisiana Purchase, a colony in South America, and islands in the Caribbean to barely any colonies at all. Haiti was the “Jewel in the Crown” of all of the French Possessions in the New World annually generating products and great wealth to keep France financially afloat and financing her many wars.

The history of Haiti begins in 1492 with Christopher Columbus when he landed on a large island in the western Atlantic that later became known as Hispaniola in a sea that became known as the Caribbean. The western portion of the island, later to be called Haiti, was the home of the Taino and Arawak natives who called the island Ayiti. The Spanish called the island La Isla Espanola (the Spanish Island) and later Hispaniola. In 1625 the French began using the island of Tortuga, northern Haiti, and in 1663 the French built a colony on the west of Hispaniola they called Saint Domingue and, over time, the economy of the colony grew to include the valuable products of sugar and coffee. After the Seven Years War (1756-1763) in 1767 the increased exports to include indigo, cotton, and 72 million pounds of sugar. By the end of the century fully one third of the Atlantic slave trade in the Americas was to Haiti.

The revolution began with escaped slaves called Maroons, fleeing into the interior hills of the island where they were beyond the reach of their old masters and the French military. The French Revolution called for the slaves to be freed and given citizenship but the ruling planters on Haiti refused. Over time, their population, influence, and power of the Maroons began to grow until the 1791 revolt that led to the revolution. The Maroons had been raiding the outlying plantations, attacking them, taking any goods they wanted, killing the Europeans and freeing the slaves. These bands of Maroons generally lacked any kind of leadership. The population of the colony at that time was 500,000 Black slaves, 32,000 Europeans, and 24,000 Mulattos. France at that time was reeling economically from the Napoleonic Wars and depended on the goods and profits that Haiti generated. In the 1730's French engineers had designed and built a system of irrigation canals to increase sugar production and by the 1740's Haiti had become the world's supplier of sugar and coffee.

Taking advantage of the French Revolution (1789-1790) and the disorganized slave rebellion in 1791, Britain invaded Haiti in 1793. Their aim was to displace any remaining French who hadn't already left and to secure the colony for itself along with the riches that would then flow into the British treasury. There were only 3,200 French soldiers on the island and they quickly surrendered. During the fighting the British supplied the rebels with food and fought with them, however, after the island was secured, slavery was reinstated and the British were now hated. Britain soon began losing soldiers to yellow fever and to fights with the Maroons. After losing 50,000 soldiers to yellow fever and the fighting, Britain decided to withdraw in 1798. In 1802 Napoleon sent an army to coerce the slaves back to the fields and reinstate slavery. After a year, in 1803 he withdrew his army when he realized he could not win.

This is the backdrop for the article by Smith who then goes on to fill in the reality of the Haitian situation explaining the internal and external pressures that put Haiti in the position where it is today and explaining the efforts of the United States to undermine the Haitian Revolution and the results that that interference produced:

WORLD HISTORY: WHITEWASHING THE HISTORICAL FEATS OF THE BLACK JACOBINS

By H. Lewis Smith

November 27, 2022

Several years ago black actor and activist Danny Glover presented Hollywood with a movie script about the Haitian General Toussaint Louverture, leader of the Black Jacobins and the Haitian Revolution that stunned the world but-Hollywood refused to back the film. The reason given: There were no white heroes! Hollywood's modus operandi have always been to sanitize slave history presenting black people ONLY as quiet, submissive pawns, entirely unassuming and obedient, yielding obedience to their white rulers and having the utmost veneration and respect for their white slave-masters, and one for themselves.

General Toussaint and the Black Jacobins noble and heroic deeds in overcoming slavery is not an image Hollywood wants presented of black people-it simply isn't in keeping with the negative image of a n@gger. This practice of deception has been a constant throughout the history of America reflecting the passions and ideas of the dominant class. The best way to keep masses of people ignorant is to strip them of any positive attributes about their history, and to a lesser degree well supplied and high off drugs.

The Haitian Revolution 1791-1804, was one of those rare transformative social, political, and economic detonations made all the more remarkable in that it took place in not only the richest and most productive colony of the French Empire but of any empire. A place where slaves created a nation becoming the world's first [economic independence] free black republic-something the ruling class never wants to talk about; consistent with concealing any and all remarkable feats achieved by a black civilization from Timbuktu, Zimbabwe, Songhay, Kush, Mali, Ancient Ghana, to Ancient Egypt. General Toussaint's defeat of the super power armies of Spain, Great Britain, and France's Napoleon, was so profound, so important, so stunning-it marked the onset of a general crisis of the entire slave system's collapse, significance of which were very troubling and disturbing to the slave-holding republic of the United States. The Haitian Revolution insurrection was a fiery cataclysm of an enormous scale and it marked "the first great shack between the ideals of white supremacy and race equality," a confrontation that compelled a retreat of the racialized slavery that had given rise to the slave-holding republic in the first instance. Fredrick Douglas speaking in Chicago in 1893 saluted the Haitian Revolution a "one of the most wonderful events in the history of this eventful century and I may also say in the history of mankind". He acknowledged that they "met deception with deception, arms with arms, harassing warfare with harassing warfare, fire with fire, blood with blood, and they would never have gained their freedom and independence had they not thus matched the French at all points." He later on prior to passing away, commented "it was the Haitian Revolution that was the original pioneer emancipator of the 19th century, whose bold intervention plunged the slave system into a death spiral from which it could not emerge, posing a mortal threat to all slave-holders throughout the world." The Haitian Revolution indeed sent a sensation of nervousness coursing through the American slave-holding republic, reminding those who may have forgotten that slavery was an inherently unstable, conflict-ridden system that inevitably gave rise to bloody rebellion. Lesson: Slavery breeds" insurrections" and, thus, was unsustainable.

Haiti's constitution of 1804 decreed that slavery would never again exist in Saint Dominique, as Haiti was then known, and it was the first in history to prohibit discrimination based on skin color a milestone that U.S. law would not guarantee for another 150 years. The Black Jacobins were a beacon of inspiration for U.S. enslaved Africans, reinforcing the idea that they were far from alone and, similarly important, they could prevail. It should be pointed out that when Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation it wasn't done out of the goodness of his heart, but out of concerns for the safety and welfare of white people, as isolated incidences of enslaved Africans revolting were increasing exponentially. Resolute racists thought that but for external forces like Haiti, slavery in the U.S. might have continued. Which begs the question what was it about Haiti's enslaved Africans-the Black Jacobins-that made them the antithesis of America's enslaved Africans? The Haitians though physically enslaved weren't [mentally enslaved] unlike their American counterparts who were. The Black Jacobins' "African cultural continuity" was never extinguished. The importance of this can't be overly emphasized for perversely American slave-masters had stripped its enslaved Africans of their cultural identity and heritage.

Fearful that Toussaint's Black Jacobins might gain free immersion and communion with their black brethren in the Southern states, threatening the security of the United States, an exasperated Thomas Jefferson once referred to the valor of Black Jacobins as the "cannibals of the terrible republic". Because of Haitians energetically repelling the white man from their territory and forbidding him to enter it they were excoriated by American slave-holders as creatures possessing, "intellect of the lowest order". Haiti set an example for oppressed folks all over the world who faced colonialism, and for that, powers that be of the world made Haiti pay dearly. The world's response was to isolate, tyrannize and make Haiti pay for rising up against slavery and white supremacy.

Year 1825 France threatened to re-invade Haiti, to re-occupy and re-enslave the people basically said you either pay us an extortion fee of what would now be equivalent to about 22 billion dollars in today's money or we are going to take you back. Haiti had been weakened to the point it really didn't want to go through another war, it had been a 13 year war and they had lost a large percentage of their population during the war so they decided to pay the fee, being forced to pay the money in the form of reparations as punishment for the slave owners' losses-property, lives, etc. Beginning in 1825, in order to pay France, Haiti had to shut down all the public schools, health care system, etc. It took Haiti over a century to finally pay off the extortion money to France. The USA was run by slave owners such as the likes of George Washington, and Thomas Jefferson who were committed to the doctrine of white supremacy and slavery; Haiti's revolution threatened it all. America, where Africans were at the bottom rung of society, ironically found themselves now engaging with Black Jacobins and from a subversive vantage point of relative equality. As a result, USA was very hostile toward Haiti. It took several decades before America finally recognized them as a sovereignty, which was sometime during the Civil War, albeit the hostility remained. Serious attempts were made by America to try and annex the Dominican Republic, Haiti, along with other Caribbean islands. Had they been successful the plan was to emigrate black people en mass to Haiti and reconstitute slavery. Haiti, not trusting America suspected as much, furiously fought against annexation and should be seen as a culminating vehemence toward a lengthy and hostile U.S. policy toward Black Jacobinism, a hostility that to this day has never been extinguished.

President Grant, strong supporter and advocate for annexation was eager to see the mass deportation of the newly freed to the Caribbean. Senator Charles Sumner, Abolitionist Wendell Philips fought against annexation-as a result of their efforts-the U.S. Senate in 1870 failed to ratify the pact, contemporaneously saving Black/African Americans from being shipped en mass to the Dominican Republic. Several years later Grant was still harboring ill-feelings about the failed annexation, speaking in 1878 in harsh terms about the abolitionist Wendell Philips...who had spoken with contempt...of the "treachery of the black race" involved in this pro-annexation effort.

Haitian's have it written in their 1804 constitution that only Haitian nationals could own property but when USA invaded them and militarily occupied Haiti from 1914-1935 the constitution was done away with, undermining sovereignty of the Haitian Republic and the development of democracy thus opening the door to the world to suck the life out of Haiti. The will of the Haitian people was not expressed because Haitian political sovereignty was constrained by the American military. The military force was used to impose a democracy by undemocratic means. Elections under the Occupation were rigged; a treaty was passed by force; martial law was declared; military tribunals were held; the press was censored; the Haitian Senate was dissolved; the constitution was changed by an unconstitutional plebiscite, and opposition was violently repressed. It appears as though everywhere the oppressor goes, they bring NO light but will and do [put out] the light.

Finally-for the first time in its nation's history-in 1990, Haiti had a chance to elect its first president in a free democratic election. Jean-Bertrand Aristide was the man. However, USA, had handpicked someone else to win but the Haitian people knew who they wanted and it was Aristide. Fall of 1991 Bush Sr.'s administration overthrew Aristide; 2000 he ran again and won. Only to be subjected to another military coup once again being overthrown. Clinton administration went after him creating an economic blockade. Bush Jr. continued the

destabilization. Since the election of Jean-Bertrand Aristide in 2000, the United States has moved to sabotage Haiti's fledgling democracy through an economic aid embargo, massive funding of elite opposition groups, support for paramilitary coup attempts, and a propaganda offensive against the Aristide government. At one time Haiti was the wealthiest colony in the entire world but has since been systematically drained of all its natural resources starting with its very humanity. The unconscionable embargo made the situation even worse. Black/African-Americans today have not fully digested the implications of the failed annexation of the island. Indeed, the assumption of U.S. citizenship has come at a steep price; namely, presumed-or coaxed-support for imperial ventures that are harmful to longtime allies and are, ultimately, detrimental to the true impression left by Black Jacobinism, which inspired abolition and helped to generate a spirit of militancy among Black/African Americans that has yet to be extinguished.

POSTSCRIPT

By John F. Furey

Today Haiti is not only miserably poor but has been reeling from a regular series of earthquakes, floods, cyclones, and hurricanes for the last one hundred and twenty years that have devastated many parts of the country over and over. Cholera epidemics usually follow many of these disasters due to poor sanitary conditions. Poor construction codes and practices ensure that the regularly occurring earthquakes will collapse many of the new buildings trapping and killing many. The island sits atop a major fault zone where since 1904 there have been 6 major destructive earthquakes and Haiti is a small country with few resources to recover from these disasters. Situated where it is, Haiti also has been struck with 15 major flooding events, 14, hurricanes, and 2 cyclones since 1904. People today still cook using firewood and an aerial view of the country shows that their forests have been denuded right up to their border with the Dominican Republic. Any amount of rain causes major flooding and mudslides as the water is not absorbed into the land.

Politically the country had been ruled on and off from 1941 by military coups interspersed with short term civilian leadership that were consistently being overthrown by the military. From 1957-1986, 29 years, Haiti was ruled by the dictatorial father/son Duvalier family, papa Doc and Baby Doc who terrorized the population through the formulation of an armed terror group called the Tontons Macoutes (the Bogeymen) and through the use of voodoo. It was not until the election of 1990 that the people actually got to choose their first president: Jean-Bertrand Aristide a leftist Roman Catholic priest was elected and within months promptly deposed by a coup.

The word Jacobins comes to us from the supporters of King James II (Latin: Jacobus) of Scotland for the English throne and stands for the destruction of the old order of things, in this case slavery and white supremacy in Haiti.

FRANCE IN THE NEW WORLD PART III: JEAN RIBAUT AND FORT CAROLINE

French Huguenot Colonization In Florida:

The Story Of Fort Caroline And Jean Ribault

By John F Furey



Background: France 1540-1685

The religious teachings of John Calvin found a receptive audience in France in the 1540's among artisans, merchants, and the nobility and many Catholics converted to this new form of Protestantism. It was called the Huguenot Movement, and as it spread, it created growing tensions between Protestants and Catholics in the cities and the countryside throughout France as they had gained 1.5 million followers by 1560. These religious disputes sparked a series of Civil Wars that were known as the French Wars of Religion that lasted 36 years (1562-1598). This conflict ended in 1598 when King Henry IV issued the Edict of Nantes. This edict formalized religious coexistence with Catholicism

in France, and granted Huguenots civil rights and military autonomy.

Under the new monarch King Louis XIV, however, the Edict of Nantes was revoked in 1685, 87 years later. The Huguenots then came under brutal persecution to convert to Catholicism, had many of their rights annulled, and many fled France for Switzerland, Germany, Britain, the American colonies, and the Dutch Republic. New small settlements by the Huguenots in the American colonies were established in the British Colony of Carolina, on the Santee River about 40 miles north of Charlestown, in Oxford Massachusetts (1686-1694), in Hackensack, New Jersey (1677), and in Narragansett, Rhode Island (1697). But what happened to the most famous attempt by the French Huguenots to gain a foothold in Florida in the New World, the establishment of Fort Caroline?

Jean Ribault (1520-1565)



Ribault was born in the town of Dieppe in Normandy, was a Huguenot and became a French naval officer under Admiral Gaspard de Coligny (1519-1572). Admiral de Coligny was a French noble and also a Huguenot who showed great military leadership in the campaigns in Italy that France pursued and was promoted to the high military office of Admiral. In the third civil war de Coligny became the de facto leader of the Huguenots after other leaders died. Accusations were leveled against him by the individual that assassinated Catholic Francis, Duke of Guise and, at the start of the St. Bartholomew's Day Huguenot massacre in 1572, de Coligny was assassinated on the orders of Henri, Duke of Guise.

In 1562 de Coligny selected Ribault to lead the French Huguenot colonization expedition to the new world at a time when open hostilities had broken out between the Catholics and the Protestant Huguenots, people were fleeing the country. De Coligny believed that both religions could live peacefully side by side but hoped that Ribault could find a new colony for Huguenots to emigrate to in the New World. De Coligny felt that a colony in the New World would provide valuable resources that could be shipped back to France, it would reduce religious strife, and it would provide a safe haven for Huguenots outside France. Additionally, it was an ideal location to attack Spanish shipping. De Coligny had earlier attempted to establish a French colony on the coast of Brazil but it failed.

Fort Charlesfort

Ribault left France on 18 February 1562 with a fleet and 150 colonists and two or three ships. Initially he explored the mouth of the St. Johns River in Florida and claimed the area for France. The fleet headed north and Ribault charted the coastline noting several rivers until they reached Port Royal Sound, in present day South Carolina. There, on Paris Island, Ribault established a settlement and erected a fort he named Charlesfort, after king Charles IX. Ribault enlisted the local Native Americans to help build the fort and had good initial relations with these people. Leaving 27 men to man the fort, Ribault sailed back to France to resupply the new colony.

Upon arriving in Le Harve, another of the French Wars of Religion had broken out and he went to his hometown of Dieppe. When the city fell, as a Huguenot, he was forced to flee and he fled to England. Through his connections with Huguenots in England, Ribault arranged an audience with Queen Elizabeth I to discuss support for a colony in the New World. Despite the initial welcome he received, he was sent to the Tower of London. He was imprisoned there from early June 1563 until the Fall of 1564. While imprisoned in the Tower, it is believed that Ribault wrote the 'Whole and True Discovery of Terra Florida.

Meanwhile, with Ribault in France, Charlesfort collapsed. A triangular fort had been constructed with help from the natives and the colonists scoured the countryside unsuccessfully looking for gold. What they failed to do was to clear land and plant crops. They were totally dependent on the resupply ships. When they failed to arrive, some of the colonists stole the boats, became pirates and attacked Spanish ships. As their chain of command disintegrated, problems arose in the form of hostilities with the local natives that were never defined, despite early good relations. After a mutiny, the survivors built a ship and attempted to sail back to France. Most of them died at sea, there was talk of cannibalism, some were rescued, brought to England, and relayed their story.

Fort Caroline



With the Peace of Amboise in 1563, de Coligny selected Ribault's former lieutenant, Rene Goulaine de Laudonniere to replace Ribault in establishing a North American colony. News of the fate of Charlesfort reached de Coligny and Laudonniere back in France before Laudonniere sailed. Laudonniere sailed on 22 April 1564. Ribault, who was released from the Tower of London in the Fall of 1564, was to follow the following Spring of 1565 with reinforcements, supplies, and it had been decided that the new colony would be established on the St. Johns River that Ribault had previously explored. The new colony would be called Fort Caroline.

On 24 June 1564 the river they called the River May was sighted, the French landed, and began construction of the fort. Again, the French enlisted the local Native Americans to assist in building the fort. Fort Caroline sustained itself for the first year, however, Ribault was unable to sail to resupply the fort due to the outbreak again of religious war in France and it was not until the summer of 1565 that he was able to sail. He brought 800 new settlers and five ships. In his absence Fort Caroline had descended into chaos. The colony experienced food shortages and some of the soldiers mutinied, turned to piracy and attacked Spanish ships in the Caribbean. It was through the capture of some of these pirates that the Spanish became aware of the existence of Fort Caroline. Additionally, the French colonists had had violent clashes with the Utina Indians, a part of the Timucuan tribe. Arriving on 28 August 1565, Ribault immediately relieved Laudonniere of command and assumed command himself.

Spain had claimed Florida in 1513 and did not plan to share Florida with the French. In early August 1565, the newly appointed Spanish governor, Pedro Menendez de Aviles the adelantado of Florida with his fleet, arrived from Cuba off the mouth of the St. Johns River with orders to rid Florida of the French. Ribault's fleet was at anchor at the mouth of the river, and after a brief naval skirmish, the French cut their anchors and fled northward and Menendez and his fleet moved 20 miles south to the next southern inlet. On 7 September he landed and established the Spanish settlement of St. Augustine at an existing Timucuan village. He landed his goods and constructed a temporary fort expecting an imminent attack from Ribault. Menendez sent his largest ship, the San Pelayo south because it was too big to cross the sandbar and enter the protected harbor. Hours later Ribault did attack but the French galleons drew too much water and could not cross the sandbar that protected the harbor. The French fleet unable to enter the harbor chased the San Pelayo south. On 11 September a hurricane struck and drove Ribault's fleet further south and to destruction on the Canaveral coast.

Menendez assumed that the majority of the French fighting men were on the ships and that the fort would be lightly defended. On 11 September Menendez ordered his infantrymen to march 20 miles up the coast under cover of the hurricane to attack the fort. On 20 September the lightly defended fort was seized and the 140 defenders were immediately put to death. The French were viewed as pirates for attacking Spanish ships, trespassing on Spanish territory, and were Protestant heretics; all offenses punishable by death. About 60 women and children at the fort were spared. Laudonniere and about forty French soldiers escaped and some eventually made it back to Europe.

Ribault's fleet was destroyed by the hurricane and several hundred soldiers and sailors made it safely to shore. From there they walked north from about present-day Daytona Beach to Matanzas Inlet, about 14 miles south of St. Augustine. The Spanish tracked them down and Ribault, believing that they would be well treated as prisoners of war, surrendered to the Spanish. In groups of ten, the French were bound and were rowed across the inlet. Taken behind the dune on the other side they were asked if they were Catholic or Protestant. All who professed to be Protestant were killed. Only the few Catholics were spared. Days later a smaller group of Frenchmen heading north were encountered and surrendered. A similar massacre took place except some Frenchmen were suspicious and fled into the bush preferring their chances with the Indians. In Total, Ribault

and about 350 of his men were murdered and the location, even today, is called Matanzas which is Spanish for slaughter. Nothing was ever heard from those that refused captivity and fled. Three years later in 1568 Dominique de Gourgues, a French nobleman turned pirate, attacked the Spanish held Fort Caroline, secured the surrender of the garrison and to avenge Ribault put all of the French prisoners to death. The French never again attempted settlements in Florida.

Where is Fort Caroline Located?

Over the years there have been a number of attempts to locate Fort Caroline, all have been unsuccessful. The City of Jacksonville has long claimed itself as the true location of Fort Caroline at the mouth of the St. Johns River and has erected monuments and named many streets after Ribault, however, all has been based upon legend. Its location at the mouth of the St. Johns River near present day Jacksonville has not been found according to archaeologists Dr. Keith Ashley and Dr. Robert Thunen. Was the site washed away? Dr. Chester De Prather believes so. So, where was Fort Caroline actually located? A recent article in the Journal of Historical Archaeology and Anthropological Sciences (Volume 7, issue 1 2022) by Dr. Anita Spring and Dr. Fletcher Crowe believe that all the evidence points to Fort Caroline being located on the Florida side of the mouth of the St. Mary's River. The St. Mary's River is the border between Florida and Georgia. Analyses of distances, maps, and historical documents have all led them to that conclusion. The Fort Caroline Archaeological Project (FCAP) plans to use lidar to scan the area at the mouth of the St. Mary's River to locate the fort as their next step in finding the "Lost Fort Caroline".

FRANCE IN THE NEW WORLD PART IV THE FRENCH COLONIZATION OF CANADA 1534-1763

By John F. Furey



Introduction

Canada had long been home for many indigenous tribes across the breadth of the continent since about 18,000 BC. They migrated across the Bering land bridge as the last of the glaciations opened pathways through the ice and followed the herd animals south. Others followed the coastline in boats, called the 'Kelp Highway', and arrived even earlier. They eventually spread south and eastward until they had occupied and adapted to every ecozone in the North American continent. The earliest European incursion into Canada that we know from archaeological investigation is at

L'Anse aux Meadows on the east coast in Labrador. This short-term Norse settlement was excavated by archaeologist Jim Tuck and it is estimated to be dated at about 1,000 AD. To date, this is the earliest European settlement in the New World and the first in what is today Canada.

The Age of Exploration 1497-1603

The first record of land at this latitude was sighted by the Italian John Cabot. Sailing on letters of patent under English King Henry VII, in 1497 and 1498, Cabot sighted land somewhere in the Atlantic provinces. Because of the Treaty of Tordesillas, Spain claimed the land that John Cabot had claimed for England in 1497 and 1498 but never pursued the claim because by then Columbus had discovered the "New World". After 1497, Cabot and his son Sebastian continued to make voyages looking for the Northwest Passage but England did not pursue its claim to the lands that Cabot had discovered in its' name. (Note:

Sebastian Cabot was born Giovanni Caboto in Venice, Italy and was not English, much as Christopher Columbus was born in Genoa, Italy). Portugal tried to claim the discoveries made by Cabot and in 1501 and 1502 the land was claimed by the Corte-Real Brothers for Portugal but it appears that they were only interested in fishing. Portuguese fisherman fished for cod in the waters off of the east coast of Canada and Maine and established temporary fishing camps



on the mainland but never attempted colonization. Unable to establish a valid claim in Canada, the Portuguese began looking at South America for colonization.

In the 1520's Giovanni de Verrazzano, an Italian explorer, was hired by King Francis I of France to explore the New World for France. Francis I was concerned that Spain and Portugal were gaining the upper hand in exploring the New World and wanted to claim land for France. Verrazzano was given four ships: the Delfina, the Normanda, the Santa Maria, and the Vittoria to explore the coast. Verrazzano charted the east coast of North America from the Carolina coast to Newfoundland exploring bays and rivers unsuccessfully looking for a passage to the Pacific Ocean, but claimed no land for France. Bridges in New York harbor and in Newport, Rhode Island are named in his honor. In 1528 Verrazzano was killed by cannibals on the island of Guadeloupe while searching for a southern passage to the orient.

It was in 1534-1542 that Jacques Cartier made three voyages across the Atlantic Ocean claiming land for King Francis I of France and further mapping the east coast. It is said that Cartier heard two captured native guides use the word kanata, which means "village" in the Iroquoian language and named the region after this word but pronounced as "Canada". The name began being used, found on maps, and eventually the name came into common usage. France had been unable to settle this land because of the many wars that she was involved in. There had been four Anglo-French wars in Italy from 1512-1559. In 1562, the French on again off again wars of religion between the Catholics and the Huguenots began anew, and lasted until 1598. In 1618 the 30 Years War began and lasted until 1648. France was exhausted and broke.

The First Settlements 1603



While Cartier had claimed this land for France in 1534, it was not actually settled for a full 70 years later until 1603-1604 when the first French European settlements north of Florida were established by explorers Pierre de Monts and Samuel de Champlain on St. Croix Island (in present day Maine), then at Port Royal, in Acadia (present day Nova Scotia). In 1608 Champlain built a fort above the St. Lawrence River, at what is now, Quebec City. Cartier had even sailed up the St. Lawrence as far as where Montreal sits today. Following in his footsteps, French traders sailed up the river to trade with the indigenous people and made alliances with the peoples of the 'First Nations'. Unlike the Spanish who only wanted to enslave the natives, the French treated the Native Canadian Indians as partners in trade and exploration. The actual number of French was

very low and, in truth, it was the Natives that actually held the military power and were in control of trapping and the fur trade.

With the establishment of Quebec City as the capitol of New France, French explorers and trappers learned from the Indians how to trap, hunt, and explored the region, and Quebec City became their jumping off point. They traveled inland and discovered Lake Champlain, traveled up the Ottawa River to Lake Nipissing and to Ottawa Bay. They explored Georgian Bay and Lake Simcoe in Huron country and joined with the Hurons in opposing the Iroquois incursions and their attempted territorial expansion into Canada. Champlain had formed an early alliance with the Huron and Algonquin tribes for furs and trade while the Indians wanted an alali against the Iroquois. The Iroquois were provided with guns by the Dutch and, later by the British, and were more than a match for the French and her Indian allies. This led to the intermittent French-Iroquois Wars, sometimes referred to as the 'Beaver Wars' that lasted almost 100 years (1609-1701) until the French and Iroquois made peace in 1701.

The "Beaver Wars" 1609-1701

The Iroquois were attempting to gain control of the beaver and fur trade with Europe it became a war of Algonquin speakers allied with the French against Iroquoian speakers. The Iroquois were first aligned with the Dutch,



and after the Dutch lost the New Amsterdam colony, later aligned with the English. As the beaver population declined from over trapping and the income from trapping declined, the Iroquois turned to conquering their smaller neighbors. Meanwhile, the Iroquois had established the Ohio Valley territory south of the Great Lakes as theirs and from 1640-1670 destroyed the eight Native American tribes and confederacies that lived there. The tribes that were affected were the Hurons or Wendat, the Erie, the Neutral, the Wenro, the Petun, Susquehannock, Mahikan, and Northern Algonquians. This large region would later be called the Northwest Territory by the British when they became allies of the Iroquois. Other tribes, feeling the pressure from the Iroquois, opted to move beyond the Mississippi River and onto the Great Plains. The Iroquois, themselves, were a confederacy or League of five tribes: the Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga, and the Seneca (some also include the Tuscarora) that were located in upstate New York near the Finger Lakes and they gained control of the entire New England frontier, from Canada to the lower Ohio Valley.

French trappers were forced further and further westward and northwards as the beaver were being over trapped in the east and to avoid the Iroquois. Skirting Iroquois territory by going west of the Ohio River Valley and the Great Lakes, they began traveling down the Mississippi River and eventually reached the Gulf of Mexico where New Orleans had been established. These French trappers and traders claimed the land as they moved south on the river and this became a basis of the French claim to the Louisiana Territory. Towns on the Mississippi River were established such as St. Louis (in modern day Missouri) and Prairie du Chein (in modern day Wisconsin) and served as collection points for furs and skins as well as resupply points for the French trappers. The furs were either shipped down the Mississippi to New Orleans and then on to France and resupply goods made the return trip upriver or they were transported to Quebec City.

New Amsterdam Becomes British 1664

The Iroquois/Algonquian conflict subsided for a while in 1664 when the Iroquois lost their Dutch allies and the English took their New Amsterdam colony. The Dutch had operated their New Amsterdam colony from 1610-1664 and had been providing the Iroquois with guns and powder that had fueled their territorial expansion into the Ohio Valley and their continued confrontation with the French. When the English took over New Amsterdam the Iroquois switched their loyalty and alliance to the English who continued to supply their needs for guns and powder. The French attempted to sway the Iroquois to their side but the Iroquois refused to break their new alliance with the British.

Peace with the Iroquois 1667

With all of these smaller tribes defeated, the buffer that they created along the border with Canada was gone and the Iroquois began raiding Canada itself. Quebec and Montreal were attacked in 1661 and 1662 and French prisoners were taken. In the mid 1660's, a permanent military force of French and Indians was established and in 1666 they began raiding Iroquois villages in New York, burning the villages and destroying their crops. The Iroquois were starved out, and many starved to death that first winter. This caused them to sue for peace with the French. The Indian villages, their crops, and their women and children were always their Achilles heel. The Indians usually did not have enough manpower and firepower to defend and prevent their villages from being attacked, burned, and their crops destroyed. Over time this changed. With the destruction of many of the Iroquois villages, the Iroquois began a campaign to replace their reduced population by capturing populations and adopting them into the Iroquois Tribe as brothers, sons, and daughters. As these tribes returned to their ancestral homelands, they were now considered Iroquois. The Iroquois prevented the French trappers from exploring and settling the Ohio Valley. Trading posts established by the French to trade directly with these western tribes were attacked and burned by the Iroquois as they sought to remain the middlemen in the fur trade with the French. Slowly, for the next 11 years, the Iroquois were pushed back up the Ohio Valley as the Susquehannock's entered the Indian war against them with a supply of weapons and the assistance of the militias from Maryland and Virginia. These same militias would later attack the Susquehannock when they wanted their land and push the tribe into the Ohio Valley and into the arms of the Iroquois.

The French continued, over time, to attempt to regain the direct fur trade with the western Sioux tribes and this caused renewed hostilities with the Iroquois. In an attempt to resolve their differences, in June 1687 the French agreed to meet with the 50 top chiefs and Iroquois sachems from the Onondaga Tribal Council. Instead of negotiating, the French captured them, shipped them to Marseilles, France to be galley slaves. The reaction by the Iroquois to this treachery was violent, as they attacked settlements everywhere. The governor located 12 of these Iroquois survivors in France and brought them back to New France in October 1698 in an attempt to ease the attacks. The French continued raiding Iroquois villages with their Indian allies, and in turn, the Iroquois even attacked the outlying villages of the New England colonies in Massachusetts and Connecticut and this was called King William's War (1688-1697). In 1697 France and England signed the Treaty of Ryswick and England withdrew from the attacks on French settlements.

The Great Peace of Montreal 1701



At some point the Iroquois realized that the biggest threat to them were the American Colonies and not the French. At the same time the French realized that befriending the Iroquois rather than fighting them was the best course of action. In 1701 the French and 39 Indian chiefs signed the Great Peace of Montreal. This treaty allowed many of the displaced tribes to return to their lands. In 1768, several of the Thirteen Colonies purchased the "Iroquois claim" to the Ohio Valley and created the Indiana Land

Company to claim all of the Northwest Territories by right of conquest. The US Supreme Court dissented and dissolved this claim in 1798.

Canada Ceded to Britain 1763

New France was well established inland along the St. Lawrence River but the French speaking population remained static as, over time, fewer and fewer people emigrated from France and France ceased to support New France with goods. The French never held much territory beyond the St. Lawrence River and were continually thwarted militarily by the Mohawks who maintained a tight grip on the fur trade. New France was beset on all sides by the British settling Hudson Bay to the north and along the Atlantic coast and by the Iroquois blocking their penetration to the west. Reduced to a dwindling fur trade, New France became more and more economically unprofitable for France. In the Maritime provinces however, more and more English, Irish, German, and others kept arriving until the non-French speaking population in this British area outnumbered the French speaking-Acadian population by 10-1. Back in France, with Napoleon's retreat from Moscow, and the loss of the Grande Armee, Napoleon was forced to abdicate and was exiled to the Isle of Elbe. France was forced to sign the Treaty of Paris in 1763 in which France ceded Canada (New France) to Britain and French emigration to Canada had already ceased. Britain now controlled North America from Hudson Bay, all of Canada, the Maritimes, and the thirteen American colonies all the way down the coast to the Spanish Florida-Georgia border.

Modern Canada

Today French speakers account for about 22 percent of the population of Canada. There is a small population of Acadian French speakers in the Maritime Provinces and a large population of French-Canadian French speakers in the Province of Quebec where a form of French from the 1700's is the major language and is distinct from modern day French spoken in France. Canada has come to grips with the dual languages in use in the country by requiring all written things to be in both languages and both languages are taught in the schools. English is still the major language in use in Canada today and Canada and Great Britain share a sovereign, King Charles III. In 1867 Canada became a member in the Dominion as a self-governing Crown Colony and gained complete independence on 1 July 1931 which is their Independence Day.

FRANCE IN THE NEW WORLD PART V

THE ACADIANS AND THE CAJUNS

By John F. Furey

Introduction: The Acadians Background



The first interest France had in Canada was fishing off of the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, however, in 1600 the fur trade became a primary motive to claim and settle the land. In 1604 a settlement on Saint Croix Island was established and in 1605 Port Royal was founded. Quebec was founded as a fur trading post in 1608 and, with free land available, French citizens were encouraged to emigrate. Acadia was one of the five regions of the Maritime Provinces of New France (Canada) and consisted of: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and the Gaspé peninsula in eastern Quebec, along with the Kennebec River in northern Maine. The first Acadians emigrated from the south and southwest regions of France between 1632-1636 and there are a number of records detailing the names of these new arrivals but later records are missing. Initially a major percentage of the new arrivals were actually traders and explorers who wanted to explore the vast area of New France and became trappers.

Over time, the vast majority of immigrants were farmers looking for a new opportunity and free land. Some settlers brought their wives with them and others intermarried with the local Mi'kmaq (pronounced Mick-Mack) tribe. The presence of European women was usually a sign that the settlements and the settlers were here to stay. Having mostly emigrated from similar areas of France, the Acadians brought with them their customs, social structure, values, of their French region, and French dialect. All of this, combined with local indigenous ideas, methods, and customs, contributed to the development of a unique Acadian identity in this area that differentiated them from the rest of New France. Here they owned their own land, could sell their crops, and they were free and not under the control of a nobleman, as they would have been in France. Many of the attitudes and traditions that they brought with them broke down to where marriages between classes and natives could happen.

The Acadians: The Treaty of Breda 1667

The Acadians had a total of 18 years to establish themselves and their culture before events in Europe enveloped them. In 1655 England and France went to war, it was called the Second Anglo-Dutch War (1665-1667) and Lord Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector of Parliament, ordered a flotilla of British troops from Boston to go to Canada and "chase the French out". They arrived and seized the LaTour Fort and then Port Royal and occupied Acadia. During this period of British occupation, no new French families arrived and those already in Acadia were not allowed to leave. The war ended in 1667 but a treaty was not signed until 1670. During the negotiations, Holland attacked and briefly conquered Acadia in 1674, renaming Acadia and Canada New Holland. The Treaty of Breda (Holland) was finally signed in 1670 and Canada and Acadia were ceded back to France.

British Reinvasion 1710

Britain again invaded Acadia in 1710 and conquered and occupied most of the Islands and the peninsula of Acadia. After the takeover by the British in 1710, the Acadians and the Mi'kmaq made six attempts and failed to reconquer the Acadian capitol of Port Royal. The 1710 Siege of the Acadian Capitol of Port Royal by Britain was successful and Britain again controlled Acadia never to relinquish its control again. Migration into Acadia and into New France by French speakers, now that Britain controlled Acadia was very minimal, while migration from England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany and other continental countries increased tenfold. Acadia under Britain, became more populous and wealthier than landlocked New France whose only exits were through the St Lawrence and south down the Mississippi. In the military incursions by the English leading up to their conquering Acadia, the Acadians and the Mi'kmaq had fought together and resisted the British in any way that they could. The Acadians and the Mi'kmaq were allied through their common Catholic religion and through intermarriage. The Mi'kmaq were a very large tribe that could field a sizeable number of warriors and, coupled

with Acadian assistance, had defeated the British at several battles. As English migration into Acadia increased, new settlements were attacked and their goal was to halt Protestant migration much like the religious wars in France with the Huguenots. The British were always highly suspicious of all Acadians because they were Catholics and because of their close association with the Native Americans.

The next 45 years experienced continued friction, both open and covert, waged against the British. Many Acadians remained neutral and did not revolt against the British but did occasionally join with the Mi'kmaq in resisting the British conquest. Six unsuccessful attempts were made by the French and their allies to reclaim the Capitol, Port Royal from the British. From 1710 when Acadia was ceded to Britain until the 1750's. In 1726 a treaty with the Wabanaki Confederacy which consisted of four tribes: the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, Passamaquoddy, and Penobscot, tribes all located in Acadia (which consisted of Arcadia and a portion of northern Maine), was signed and their participation in British resistance mainly ended, however, resistance by the French from New France and some Acadians continued. The Acadians were living between French Canada to the west, the British 13 colonies to the south, and Acadia was occupied by the British. Conflicts on the European continent between France and Britain always spilled over and influenced events in Acadia, French Canada, and the British colonies.

The Hudson Bay Company

In 1670 Britain, through the Hudson's Bay Company, laid claim to Hudson Bay and the area around it, called it Rupert's Land, and expanded their trading posts north of Quebec. The Hudson Bay Company had the exclusive rights to the skin and fur trade in British controlled North America and they positioned their trading posts far and wide. Many Acadians traded with the New England Protestants to the south and the British Hudson Bay Company but they still chafed under British rule.

The French and Indian War 1754-1764

After the conquest of Acadia in 1610, the British asked the Acadians to sign an unconditional oath of allegiance to Britain but with the armed French and Acadians resistance to British rule, the situation was dangerous and few actually signed. For others Acadians, they were anti British but signing the oath would lead the Mi'kmaq to consider you British and put you, your family, and your whole village at risk. Failure to not sign had its risks as well. The French and Indian war began in 1754 and lasted well into 1764. Using the war as an excuse, between 1755 and 1764 the British expelled over 12,000 Acadians, three quarters of the population of Nova Scotia, in what was called in French, Le Grand Derangement (the Great Upheaval). Acadians being expelled were told that their houses, livestock, and possessions would be forfeit and they would be forced to leave. The Acadians were to be shipped by boat and dispersed throughout the 13 colonies and elsewhere. Many fled to the woods to live with the Mi'kmaq or west to New France but Acadians were perceived by the British as an enemy living among them and were always a threat. The plight of the Acadians, their expulsion, and their anguish at the separation of families was put into words by Massachusetts poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow with his 1847 poem Evangeline.

Expulsion: The Diaspora

A band of partisans and Mi'kmaq raided a warehouse near Fort Edward in 1757, killing 13 British soldiers, they took what they could carry and burned the building. A few days later they attacked fort Cumberland (formerly Fort Beausejour). From these and other raids, some Acadians were killed and others captured, imprisoned and exiled. After the fall of Louisbourg over 1,000 Acadians were deported to northern France. An additional number of them were sent to the colonies of Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and Virginia as indentured servants and the colonies passed laws putting them under custody of "justices of the peace and overseers of the poor". The idea was to spread out the Acadians by making them a very small group within a larger population.

After the end of the Seven Years War in 1763, some Acadians were allowed back into Nova Scotia but were limited as to where they could reside and all of their good former farming lands had already been resettled by

English speakers, they would have to start all over. Beginning in 1764, groups of Acadians began arriving in Louisiana and eventually became the Cajuns. With so many of the Acadians removed, French Canada/ New France had few people to incite to rebel against the British and the Indians and remaining Acadians settled down and acquiesced to British rule. Five years after the expulsion of the Acadians, the first New England colonists arrived to find bleached bones and burned homes. The dikes that drained the marshes were in disrepair and the new settlers didn't know how to repair or maintain them. The government then drafted 2,000 Acadians who had avoided deportation and put them to work as paid laborers repairing the dikes and drainage systems on their former lands.

Acadians in Canada Today: The Languages

The population of French Acadian speakers today is approximately 370,000 (as of 2006) and limited mainly to the four Atlantic Provinces in Canada with the majority of them located in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Acadian speakers represent .01 percent of the population of Canada with approximately another 22.8 percent of the population speaking Canadian French. Language in Canada has been a controversial subject in Canada since Britain took over Canada and the Maritimes and Acadian is considered a form of French and is not singled out as a specific language yet both are very different from modern day French in France and Acadian is a variant of Canadian French. Canada, and the Maritime Provinces, have been subject to a number of official linguistic acts by the government attempting to legislate linguistic equality between English and French, both of which are official languages, and in 1977 French was declared the official language of Quebec. In 2019 Canada passed an Indigenous Language Act recognizing the many Ancestral Languages of the native population. Most people in Canada today speak English and many have a second language but Acadian French is still spoken in the Maritimes.

Acadian Archaeology

Recent archaeological investigations in Arcadia have explained the reasons that the French Acadians had so much success as farmers, especially in Nova Scotia, in this new and marshy land. The key to their recovery of the land was the construction of a series of ditches and dikes with a hollowed-out log with a 'valve' at one end. The 'valve' allowed water to drain out of the salt marshland and prevented seawater from flowing back into the marsh. The sides of the ditches were strengthened with branches that acted like rebar in modern construction and built up with peat slabs. Once the salt had been washed out of the marshland by rain and snow meltwater, it was fit to farm and was highly fertile. The organic matter that the tides had deposited in the marshes over the years had composted and created a highly fertile area. It was this high fertility of the soil that allowed the dramatic population growth of the Acadians in the early years of their relocation from France. Archaeologists are also trying to reconstruct their settlement patterns since most of the Acadian structures were burned after their expulsion and they are trying to further understand their system of dikes.

The Acadians Become The Cajuns

Despite the British dividing the Acadians into small groups in 1755 and dispersing them throughout the 13 colonies, and despite them being marginalized in their new communities, many managed to regroup and find their way to Louisiana. It is believed that the term Cajun is a derivation from the use of the term "Cadiens". To date there has been little archaeological work to find evidence of these early arrivals from Arcadia and with rising sea level many areas that they first inhabited are already inundated.

The most famous early Acadian arrivals were the Broussard brothers, Joseph and Alexander. They had waged a guerilla war against the British in Nova Scotia and in 1764, realizing that they could not win, left first for the French island of Saint Domingue (Haiti). They then moved on to New Orleans with about 200 other Acadians believing that Louisiana was French. However, France had secretly ceded Louisiana to the Spain and remained to manage the colony for Spain only until 1766. Shortly after arriving, a Yellow Fever epidemic struck Louisiana taking many of the new arrivals. All Cajuns became American citizens in 1803 through the Louisiana Purchase by the United States. Cajuns joined General Andrew Jackson on 8 January 1815 in repulsing the British at the Battle of New Orleans and many were happy to be able to finally fight and beat the British. Cajuns

initially lived in the southern Louisiana parishes and made their living in the swamps, hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering Spanish moss, and many other swamp related occupations. Others moved west of New Orleans into the “Cajun Lapland” where Louisiana “laps over Texas” and became cattle ranchers, grew cotton, corn, and rice. This was the so-called “Cajun Triangle” of Beaumont, Port Arthur, and Orange.

After World War I

After World War I some Cajuns had served in the military and had traveled to Europe and, for most, it was their first time outside the bayou, never mind Louisiana. In 1922 the state of Louisiana prohibited the teaching of Cajun French in the public schools by passing the Compulsory Education Act affecting the lower parishes where Cajun French had been taught for years. This had a direct impact on the use of the language. Living in extended families, Cajun French could only be acquired in the family and, over time, you had three generations where the grandparents spoke Cajun, the parent only some Cajun, and the grandchildren spoke English only. This was the beginning of a greater integration of the Cajuns into Louisiana/American English language society.

After World War II

Again, many Cajuns were exposed to the wider world outside Louisiana during the war and the use of the language became more diluted. Families that previously were extended, now became nuclear with marriages outside the Cajun culture. The Cajun language was looked at like the Appalachian and Ozark dialects and was dying out. In racially sensitive Louisiana, Cajuns were classified as above Blacks but were the lowest of the white classes. In 1990 there were 668,000 people in Louisiana that classified themselves as Acadian/Cajun. Cajun “culture” today has been commercialized and celebrated not just in Louisiana but has spread throughout the country in the celebration of Mardi Gras, Cajun food, Cajun music, and in many Louisiana celebrations and fairs. The celebration of the culture lives on while the Cajun language itself slowly withers.

Acadians In Canada Today

Acadians have scattered throughout the Canadian population in small numbers with the Acadian population estimated at 305,000 Acadian speakers. The majority still live in the Maritime Provinces, with 108,000 in New Brunswick and 49,000 in Nova Scotia. A sizable number, however, migrated into Quebec in New France/Canada to escape the British in the Maritimes and today number about 84,000. Many still live in the area around Madawaska, Maine where some of the first Acadians originally settled. The Acadian language, while considered French, is an older form of French that did not evolve as modern French did since the late 18th Century and retains many linguistic features that died out in modern French. The French-Canadian language is another example of this. Most Acadians speak English or Canadian-French as a second language and are active in all aspects of the Canadian economy and culture. In 2003 Queen Elizabeth II issued a Royal Proclamation acknowledging the deportations and established 28 July 2005 as an annual day of commemoration and is commemorated as the “Great Upheaval”. The Acadians are a vibrant minority and celebrate their cultural roots with a National Annual Convention, a national flag, a national anthem “Ave Maris Stella”, (Hail, Star of The Sea, from a medieval Latin hymn) and commemorate 13 December annually as “Acadian Remembrance Day”.

Acadians in Canada and Cajuns in Louisiana are in contact with each other and acknowledge their common cultural, religious, and linguistic roots. The 1755 poem *Evangeline* by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow has been used as a vehicle to revive both their distinct Acadian cultural identities. In 1920, a statue of “*Evangeline*” by Canadian sculptor Henri Hebert was installed in Gran Pre, Nova Scotia to commemorate the 1755 poem and the Acadian struggle. A second statue of “*Evangeline*” was donated in 1929 to the town of St. Martinsville, Louisiana by the cast and crew of the Mexican silent film “*Evangeline*”, starring Dolores Del Rio who starred in the film and posed for the statue. Both populations are firmly rooted in the present but, as the auto number plates in Quebec read, “*Je me Souviens*”, I Remember. The past is always there.

FRANCE IN THE NEW WORLD PART VI: BRITAIN TAKES CANADA

By John F. Furey



France claimed Canada and the Maritimes during the Age of Exploration when Jacques Cartier claimed the land for France in 1534 calling it New France, but it was not until 70 years later in 1603-1604 that actual settlements were made. Anglo-French wars in Italy and internal Catholic/Huguenot wars delayed the colonization of this territory. It is said that Cartier overheard two captive guides use the word 'kanata' in the Iroquoian language which means "village" and this became Canada. French explorers and trappers were the first to arrive in Canada and the Maritimes were the first areas to be colonized. Later arrivals traveled up the Saint Lawrence River into Canada proper and it became the major route inland. Quebec City and Montreal were established on the Saint Lawrence and they became the major inland cities and centers of the fur trade with the Indians.

Events in Europe and the treaties from the various wars always impacted the ownership and the management of all of the lands in the New World. The French Maritimes were lost to Britain in 1665 when Britain went to war with France and their Dutch allies in the Second Anglo-Dutch War. The war ended in 1667 and when the Treaty of Breda was signed Canada and the Maritimes were ceded back to France. The Dutch colony of New Amsterdam was taken by Britain and the British King Charles II awarded the colony to his brother, the Duke of York, and it was renamed New York. The Dutch reinvaded the New York colony but in the 1674 Treaty of Westminster they gave up New York for the Surinam colony in South America. In 1710 Britain reinvaded the Acadian/French Maritimes and took control of that region east of New France/Canada. Despite opposition by the French in New Canada, the Acadians, and their Indian Mi'kmaq allies, Britain remained and, later in 1755, began exiling many Acadians and replacing them with English speaking colonists.

The Beaver Wars lasted from 1609-1701 and it became a war of Algonquin speakers verses Iroquoian speakers. The French were allied with the Algonquin speakers in Canada and the Dutch with the Iroquoian speakers in upper New York. In 1664 the Dutch were displaced and the British took over their New Amsterdam colony and were immediately inserted into the Beaver Wars. The Iroquois switched their loyalty from the Dutch to the British and the British continued arming them as the Dutch had done and French/British hostilities continued. The Beaver wars ended when the French realized that it would be best if the Iroquois and the French became friends and ended the hostilities. In 1701 the Iroquois and the French signed the peace of Montreal which allowed the displaced tribes to return to their ancestral lands.

The destruction of the French Grande Armee at the gates of Moscow and their retreat from Russia caused Napoleon to abdicate and, in the 1763 Treaty of Paris, France ceded New France/Canada to Britain to keep the island of Guadeloupe. Britain now controlled the Maritimes, New France/Canada, and the thirteen American colonies down the east coast to Spanish Florida. Through its Indian allies, they also controlled the Ohio Valley that they called the Northwest Territories. These ties with the tribes of the Ohio Valley, and even further south, would be put into play in their future conflicts with the American colonies.

FRANCE IN THE NEW WORLD PART VII: SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA

By John F. Furey



SOUTH AMERICAN COLONIES

The discovery of the New World by Christopher Columbus in 1492 immediately set off a series of religious problems for Rome to prevent a major war between Catholic Spain and Portugal over this new land. To preempt the territorial disputes that were bound to happen, in 1493 Pope Alexander VI issued a Papal Bull, or decree, “inter Caetera” authorizing Spain and Portugal to colonize the Americas. Three additional bulls were issued and all four were replaced by the Treaty of Tordesillas in May 1493. The treaty guaranteed Spain the exclusive right to develop and colonize the lands discovered by Columbus.

Columbus inadvertently created the whole dispute himself by stopping off in Lisbon on his way home to Spain. Columbus met with King John II who had refused to finance his exploration to prove that there were more islands southwest of the Canary Islands. King John II (Joao) Immediately claimed that all land south of the Canaries belonged to Portugal and would assemble an armada to take

control of them. The first and subsequent Papal Bulls were negotiated and negotiations between Spain and Portugal continued for many years. The geography of the New World was not known at this time and the creation of The Papal Line was established to keep the peace. It was nebulous enough, and later was projected to go around the world with the Treaty of Zaragoza in 1524 when Spain and Portugal made additional agreements regarding the placement of the line and what it encompassed. With the discovery of the New World, France, Britain, and Holland, the other European world powers, were not content to let the Catholic Pope divide the world in half between Spain and Portugal and had no intention of abiding by the Papal Bulls, the Papal Line, and Spanish and Portuguese treaties.

Huguenot Colony of Henriville in Brazil 1555-1567

With the continuation of the religious wars in France between the Catholics and the Protestant Huguenots, French Vice Admiral Nicolas Durand de Villegaignon (1510-1575) led a small fleet of two ships and 600 soldiers to find a refuge for the Huguenots. He took possession of a small island in 1555 named Serigipe in Guanabara Bay across from modern day Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and built a small fort he named Fort Coligny. This was despite the Papal Line and possible retaliation by Portugal. On the undeveloped mainland he built a village he named Henriville after King Henri II and made an alliance with the local natives who had been fighting the Portuguese, the Tamoio and Tupinamba Indians. The colony became a haven for the Huguenots and additional colonists arrived in 1557.

As in France, Religious differences in faith and practice, followed the new arrivals and soon found their way to disrupt the colony between the newly arrived Calvinists and the Huguenots and in 1557, the Calvinists that were newly arrived, were banished from the island colony onto the mainland to Henriville. Some lived among the Tupinamba Indians while others returned to France. Meanwhile, the Portuguese had learned of the French Colony, and in 1560, Mem de Sa, the new Governor General of Brazil, was ordered to expel the French. With a fleet of 26 warships and 2,000 soldiers, he attacked and destroyed Fort Coligny in three days but many escaped to the mainland where they were aided by the natives. Admiral Villegaignon, disgusted with the religious infighting, had returned to France in 1558 before the attack by the Portuguese. The French conducted a guerilla type war on the mainland against the Portuguese with the assistance of the Indians that lasted another two years but, after 12 years of conflict, the French colony was finished and the city of Rio de Janeiro on the inside of the bay was founded by the Portuguese.

French Colony in Maranhao 1612-1616

In 1612 a French expedition with 500 colonists left Cancale, Brittany, France to start a new colony in what is now the northern coast of Brazil, in the Brazillian state of Maranhao. Seigneur de la Ravardiere had explored the region in 1604 but the passing of the king had delayed his plans to begin a new colony. The colonists built a village that they named Saint Louis in honor of the French king Louis IX. Unlike many of the other efforts at colonization, this was to be a commercial colony not a religious community like the Huguenot colonies escaping religious persecution. Four years after the founding of Saint Louis, the colony was attacked in 1616 by an army formed by Captain Pernambuco and led by Alexandre de Moura and defeated. In 1620 Portuguese colonists arrived at the site and founded the future state capitol of Sao Louis, the only Brazilian state capitol named by the French.

French Colony in Guiana 1604/1626/1635/1643/1645/1674

Another French colony was first started in 1604 north of the failed colony of Maranhao, Brazil, in what is today French Guiana. The original 1604 settlement was abandoned due to opposition by the indigenous population. Colonization was again attempted in 1626 and again in 1635 but, due to mismanagement and misfortune, both attempts were failures. In 1643 and 1645 the settlement of Cayenne was started and restarted but it too was abandoned. In 1674 the private colony came under the control of the French Crown and a competent Governor assumed the management of the colony, and only then, did it become a successful colony. From 1851-1951 Guiana established the infamous Devil's Island Prison (Ile du Diable) off the coast made famous by the 1974 movie Papillon. Today French Guiana is the only successful French South American colony and since 1946 it has been an Overseas Department of France.

The Kingdoms of Araucania, Chile and Patagonia, Argentina

In 1860, The kingdoms of Araucania and Patagonia were declared for France, and also called New France, by French lawyer and adventurer Antione de Tounens who declared himself king. Tounens landed in Coquimbo, Chile and met with some Mapuche Indians who he offered to arm and help them in their struggle against Chilean government. They elected him their supreme leader thinking that a European leading them would help their cause. In 1862 the Chilean army arrested him, imprisoned him, and later declared him insane. He was shipped back to France and for years tried to gain recognition for his kingdom. He died in 1878.

The Falkland Islands/les Malouines 1764-1765

In 1764 the islands were being used by French sailors as a stopover point in the transit to Argentina and the Pacific Ocean. The French claim to the islands was cut short when English Captain John Byron explored a natural harbor on West Falkland and claimed the islands for Britain in 1756. Unaware of the French settlement on East Falkland, from 1757-1770 the British established a permanent settlement at Port Egmont. The Spanish pushed the British out in 1770 and inhabited the islands until 1811 when they left. In 1833 the British returned and the islands remain British to this day. On 2 April 1982 Argentina reasserted its claim to the islands with an amphibious invasion and quickly overran the 83 British military personnel stationed there. Britain invaded and on 14 June 1982, the Argentines surrendered and the Falklands were British again.

CENTRAL AMERICA

New Spain: Background

France attempted no colonies or conquests in Central America with the exception of Mexico. New Spain/Mexico had been controlled by Spain and a Spanish appointed Viceroy since the conquistadors under Hernan Cortes in 1518 had invaded Mexico and conquered the land. Since then, The Catholic Church and the peninsulares, those born in Spain and their descendants, had controlled the country by large land grants called encomiendas and special privileges granted by the Spanish Crown for the entrada, the invasion into Mexico. These large landowners had oppressed the peons and especially los indios, the indigenous people. Over time many of the people were restless under the yoke of Spain, the very wealthy Catholic Church, and the wealthy landowners, and in 1742 and 1792 riots erupted in several areas of the country. These uprisings lacked leadership, were not connected and in 1808, and again in 1809, food shortages created widespread unrest and

more uprisings. Behind the scenes, the Church and the wealthy landowners were looking to impose a monarchy in place of the Spanish Viceroy and were actively searching for a royal person to offer the crown to.

Meanwhile, events happening in Spain had weakened the Spanish monarchy. In 1805 the Spanish fleet had been destroyed at the Battle of Trafalgar. Spanish troops were in Italy and in northern Europe with Napoleons' armies and not in Spain. Napoleon went to war with Portugal and his army transited through Spain to attack the country. Britain had joined with Portugal to resist the French and the war dragged on. With his army in Spain, Napoleon decided to take the country. He deposed the Spanish king Charles IV, and installed his brother Joseph on the combined Spanish-Portuguese thrones. Spain and Portugal both rebelled, and with the aid of Britain began the 7-year Peninsula War with France that would last until 1814. With all of this unrest Spain was weak and, in Mexico, the moment appeared right for rebellion against the longstanding Spanish yoke.

In September 1808 Spanish Viceroy to Mexico, Jose de Hurrigaray was overthrown, an uprising in favor of independence began, and Mexico was declared a Catholic Monarchy. By 1810 an armed uprising began that was led by Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, a priest that led an army of indigenous and mixed-race men. They called for an end to Spanish rule, land reform, racial equality, and were against the royalists. Hidalgo was captured and executed in 1811. Battles and conflicts like this took place all over Mexico until settled by the Treaty of Cordoba in 1821. In 1824 a new constitution was written and in 1836 Spain recognized Mexico as an independent country. The new constitution severely restricted the power of the church, the wealthy landowners, and the Mexican army and the conservatives declared the new constitution null and void.

French Intervention in Mexico 1862

For 38 years Mexico had been a free but poor country run by the Catholic Conservatives, the wealthy, and the Mexican Army which were the three bastions of conservatism in the country. The Mexican-American War of 1846-1848 had destabilized the country and the bloody battles in the 1850's between the conservatives and liberals had further divided the country and had been costly. The Catholic Conservative administration had borrowed money at exorbitant rates and with extraordinary poor terms and conditions from the major European powers to finance the Mexican government. After the Reform Wars (1857-1861) were won by the Liberals under Benito Juarez, and after taking power, Juarez found that the treasury was empty and the country bankrupt. To keep the government afloat and provide the necessary internal services for the people, as an emergency measure Juarez proposed a two-year moratorium of payment of all foreign debt, not a repudiation of the Mexican foreign debt incurred by the conservatives, but a two-year moratorium on payments. This would stabilize the Mexican economy and after two years payments would resume.

Britain, France, and Spain were owed the largest amount of the Mexican debt and were not pleased with this decision by Juarez. They were unwilling to accept a two-year delay in payments and met in London in late 1861 and signed the Convention of London. In December of 1861 all three nations sent their fleets to Vera Cruz, Mexico. This was a disregard of the Monroe Doctrine but, mired in the US Civil War, the US was powerless to oppose them. In December, Spanish forces captured the Fortress of San Juan de Ulua and in January 1862, an additional 6,000 Spanish, 3,000 French, and 700 British troops were landed. The British and Spanish met with the Mexican Foreign Minister and agreed not to advance further into the country while talks were underway. The next month all the British and Spanish troops departed from Mexico. France, it appears, was more interested in conquest rather than debt repayment, and using that as an excuse, moved its troops inland and sought to topple the Juarez government and to install a government favorable to the French. Additional troops came ashore on 5 March 1862 to further bolster the French troops already ashore.

The conservatives, who lost the Reform Wars to Juarez, had secretly invited the French to intervene and hoped to return Mexico to a monarchy and resume their power, land, and special privileges. They had met with Napoleon III Emperor of France at the urging of the then president General Santa Anna and were hoping to return Mexico to a monarchy. With its troops ashore and the departure of the British and Spanish soldiers and fleets, France was unconstrained and continued to take territory planning on turning Mexico into a vassal state.

As the French army advanced, Napoleon III began to look for a new royal monarch to rule Mexico and the name of Archduke Maximilian of Austria was put forward. He was asked and declined the offer several times but, after he was forced to renounce all claims to the Austrian throne, he accepted Napoleon's offer. The new emperor of Mexico arrived at Veracruz on 29 May 1864, proceeded to the capitol, and Maximilian and his wife Carlotta were crowned Emperor and Empress at the Cathedral of Mexico City and moved into the Chapultepec Castle. Maximilian immediately offered an amnesty and many liberals accepted, and he began reorganizing the Mexican government bureaucracy and the Imperial Mexican Army establishing French control. He enacted many new liberal laws establishing equality of the law, freedom of speech, the rights of the workers, and a law guaranteeing the native indios a living wage. Laws were published in Spanish, Nahuatl, and the Aztec languages and many other liberal policies were enacted. All of this angered the conservatives who began plotting against him.

In 1865 the American Civil War ended and, while the US was not willing to impose the Monroe Doctrine against France who had invaded the country during the Mexican revolutionary war, it refused to recognize the new regime and secretly provided Benito Juarez a thirty-million-dollar loan. The US refused to enter militarily in Mexico but put pressure on France to quit Mexico. The régime of Maximilian was fighting both in the north and south of Mexico and Napoleon III saw that the conquest of Mexico as unwinnable. In January 1866 Napoleon III announced that he was withdrawing the French army and in October Maximilian notified his cabinet that he was going to abdicate. The cabinet voted against abdication. As the liberal and republican armies surrounded Mexico City in May, Maximilian attempted to flee through enemy lines and was captured. On 12 June he was tried and sentenced to death. On 19 June 1867 Maximilian was executed with his generals by a firing squad. This ended the French intervention in Mexico.

Fort Saint Louis, Texas 1685-1689

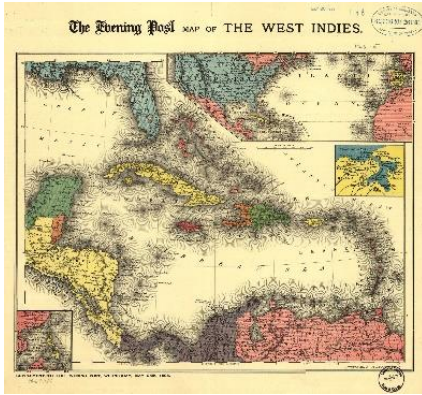
There was another small, little known, French colony from 1685-1689 that was founded near present day Inez, Texas. French explorer Robert Cavellier de la Salle was searching for the mouth of the Mississippi River but was 400 miles (644 km) off due to navigational errors and inaccurate maps. He landed in Matagorda Bay in early 1685 and established a temporary camp while a site for a permanent settlement could be found. A site was found 50 miles (80 km) inland and all of the equipment and material would have to be carried that distance overland. Once the settlement and the fort was constructed, La Salle began exploring the area around the fort, still looking for the Mississippi River. The French encountered the Caddo Indians and had good relations with them and also encountered Jumano buffalo hunters and traders who reported the French presence to the Spanish.

For many reasons the colony floundered and without help from France or its island colonies, the colony was doomed and by January of 1687, only 45 of the original 180 colonists were all that was left. Meanwhile, the Spanish had been combing the coast looking for the colony to destroy it. It was not until they located a deserter named Jean Gery living with the Coahuiltecas who they used as an interpreter and guide to find the site of the colony. In late April 1689 the Spanish found the colony but the few remaining colonists had been killed by the Karankawa Indians. They buried the eight cannon that were left behind and these were found by archaeologists in 1966 by the Texas Historical Commission (THC) along with the site. The three-year-search search for the French colony was a boon to Spain as the search along the Gulf of Mexico yielded them accurate maps of the Gulf coast.

France abandoned its claim to Texas on 3 November 1762 when it ceded all of the territory west of the Mississippi River to Spain in the Treaty of Fontainebleau after losing the seven-years-war. In 1803, three years after Spain returned Louisiana back to France, Napoleon sold the Louisiana Purchase to the U.S.A. In 1819 the ownership of Texas was resolved in the Adams-Onis Treaty when the U.S. relinquished its claim to Texas to Spain and Spain ceded Florida to the U.S. The borders of Texas were established along the Sabine, Red, and Arkansas Rivers as the western border of the Louisiana Purchase.

FRANCE IN THE NEW WORLD PART VIII: THE CARIBBEAN ISLANDS

By John F. Furey



Introduction

In addition to colonies and attempted colonies in North and South America, France was very active in claiming and settling many Caribbean islands, and several are still a part of the French Overseas Department. Its first and largest island colony with slaves in the Caribbean was St. Domingue/ Haiti, that was founded in 1627 on the island of Hispaniola and was lost to the slave uprising revolution of 1791-1804. This was the first successful slave revolution and had widespread repercussions in the rest of the New World and the French economy. France colonized and lost several islands to independence but retained a relationship with them. Other islands remain today under French political control and constitute the majority of the entities in the French Overseas Department.

The events in Europe were the catalyst that saw the invasions of many of the islands and their occupations only to be reversed by a treaty at the end of the war. The islands listed below demonstrate this back-and-forth occupation between France and Britain where Britain had the largest navy in the world. France's loss of its navy at the Battle of the Nile and finally at the Battle of Trafalgar, sealed its nautical fate. Both Britain and France recognized the economic importance of the islands for sugar, cotton, and other natural resources unique to certain islands as well as their importance as military bases to control their harbors and fight piracy. All of these islands experienced great turmoil and repeated invasions only to be repatriated by treaties signed in Europe. A listing of the islands and their invasions and subsequent reversals by treaties at the end of this paper demonstrates the rivalry between Britain and France during these turbulent times in the Caribbean.

ISLANDS LOST BY THE FRENCH

Saint Kitts and Nevis

Discovered in 1493 by Christopher Columbus, he named them San Jorge and San Martin but did not establish a colony on the island. Sir Francis Drake visited the island of St. Kitts in 1585, and like Columbus, no colony was established. In 1620 Ralph Merrifield and Sir Thomas Warner received a British Royal Patent to colonize the island. When they arrived in February 1624, there were three Frenchmen, possibly Huguenots, living on the island alongside the natives in their section. French Captain Pierre Belain d'Esnebuc had established the French colony on the other side of the island and split the island into quarters with the British in the center of the island with two-quarters, and the French with one-quarter on each end of the island. These two colonies were the first European colonies in the Caribbean and are considered the mother colonies for the expansion in the Caribbean for both countries. In 1626 both the British and French joined forces to massacre the native Kalingos.

In 1629 the Spanish invaded the island trying to reassert their original Christopher Columbus claim to the islands and deported both the British and French settlers back to their respective countries. One year later they allowed some to return. In the 1670 Treaty of Madrid, Spain recognized the British claim to the islands but it was not until 1713 that France renounced its claim to these islands. Until the late 1800's Nevis had been the richer of the two but then St. Kitts began to eclipse Nevis economically. The American revolution of 1776 kept the British navy busy and, using this diversion, France took the islands again but in the 1783 Treaty of Paris ceded them back to Britain. Since then both islands have remained firmly British. The islands were granted full autonomy in 1967 and on 19 September 1983 achieved full independence, with the islands voting to remain within the British Commonwealth.

Dominica

Dominica is located between French Guadeloupe and Marie-Galante and north of Martinique. Originally settled in 1632 by French colonists but, under the 1748 Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, France and Britain agreed to treat

the island as neutral. The treaty ended the War of the Austrian Succession. The island was captured by Britain in 1759 and France officially ceded it to Britain in 1763. French troops from Martinique invaded and captured the island in 1778 but in 1783 Britain recaptured the island. France attempted to again capture the island in 1805 but were forced to withdraw. Dominica became independent and self-governing in 1967.

Grenada

Located northwest of Trinidad and Tobago, northeast of Venezuela, and southwest of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada was first sighted and named by the Spanish but they never attempted to colonize the island due to the fierce resistance by the Carib Indians. In 1498 the French established a colony they called La Grenade and fought and conquered the Caribs. For 114 years the French colony thrived but, again due to losses in its European wars, was forced to cede the island to Britain under the Treaty of Paris in 1763. From 1779-1783 France achieved a takeover of the island but the British forced them to withdraw. In 1974 Grenada became independent.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Located southeast of the Windward Islands in the Lesser Antilles, St. Vincent and the Grenadines both had a Carib population that became known as the 'Black Caribs' who opposed colonization. In 1719 the French established the town of Barrouvillie on the leeward side of the island. The island had been sighted by Christopher Columbus in 1493. During the 7 Years War Britain took the island and in 1763, it was ceded to Britain under the Treaty of Paris. During the Anglo-French War of 1778-1783, St. Vincent was recaptured by the French only to be ceded to Britain under the Treaty of Paris in 1783. St. Vincent and the Grenadines achieved independence in 1969.

Saint Lucia

St. Lucia is the second largest island in the Windward group of the Lesser Antilles. Located 24 miles (39 km) south of Martinique and 21 miles (34 km) northeast of Saint Vincent. It was discovered around 1500 but not colonized for over 100 years. The first attempt was by the British in 1605 and again in 1638 but hostile Carib Indians kept them at bay. In 1650 the French colonized the island and in 1660 made a treaty with the Caribs. Four years later in 1664 the British invaded and took the island but it was restored to France under the Treaty of Breda (Holland) in 1667. The island was declared neutral in 1722 and, under the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle returned to France in 1763. The 1803 Treaty of Paris saw the island ceded back to Britain and in 1979 St. Lucia gained its independence.

Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI)

Located southeast of Mayaguana in the Bahamas and north of Hispaniola, it consists of 8 main islands and 22 smaller ones. The islands were first sighted in 1512 by Spanish slavers who captured the Taino and Lucayan Indians to work their plantations on Hispaniola. By about 1513 the islands had been depopulated by slavers. Britain claimed the island chain but during the Anglo-French War, France occupied the islands from 1778-1783 but returned them to Britain under the 1783 Treaty of Paris. After the Confederate loss of the American Civil War, many southern slaveowners fled to the TCI with their slaves despite slavery being illegal. Several slave ships wrecked on the TCI coast and the slaves were freed and both the slaves and the ships crews were parceled out across the island as apprentices to provide work and increase the population. In 1959 the TCI was made a separate colony and, later, a British Overseas Territory (BOT) in 2002. Today they remain a BOT.

Montserrat

First sighted in 1493 by Christopher Columbus and named for the abbey of Montserrat in Spain. The island is located 27 miles (43 km) southwest of Antigua and 30 miles (50 km) northwest of Guadeloupe. It was first settled by Irish Catholics from the island of St. Kitts in 1632 and claimed by Britain. French forces invaded the island several times: in 1666 and again in 1667 and the island was returned to Britain under the Treaty of Breda. France again invaded the island in 1712 but was again forced to return it to Britain under the treaty of Versailles in 1783. Today Montserrat is a British Overseas Territory and the population wishes to remain close to Britain.

CURRENT FRENCH ISLAND TERRITORIES

Guadeloupe

Guadeloupe is a large group of islands, islets, and rocks located in the Leeward islands in the northern part of the Lesser Antilles, to the north is Antigua and Barbuda, to the south is Montserrat and Dominica. The main island in the chain is Guadeloupe with Basse-Terre as the name of the lower western part of the main island and Grand-Terre is the northeastern peninsula. In 1493 Christopher Columbus discovered these islands and named them after a shrine in Guadalupe, Extremadura, Spain. The island was called “Karakera” by the Arawak’s meaning Island of Beautiful Waters. While discovered by Spain, all attempts at major colonization were beaten back by the Arawak’s.

In 1626, the French took over the island and expelled the few remaining Spanish inhabitants and in 1635 formally took possession of the archipelago for France by the Compagnie des Iles de Amerique. The company was going bankrupt and in 1640 the island was sold to Charles du Petit Pre who started the plantation system and introduced slaves in 1650. The islands were assumed by the French West India Company in 1656, and as the Seven Years War (1756-1763) began, the British captured the islands. Guadeloupe was returned to France at the Treaty of Paris. These islands were so profitable to France that they gave away their Canadian colonies to Britain at the treaty to keep these islands.

The French Revolution of 1789-1794 created so much chaos that Britain reinvaded and took the islands. Immediately at the end of the Revolution, France sent an army to take back the islands from the British because they were so profitable. With the population of slaves increasing and their conditions so dismal, the slaves staged an unsuccessful rebellion in 1802 encouraged by the revolution in Haiti. Britain coveted the islands so much that in 1810 they reinvaded and captured the islands again. At the Treaty of Stockholm in 1813 the islands were given to Sweden and at the 1815 Treaty of Vienna they reverted back to France for good. The Guadeloupe Island Archipelago is a member of the French Overseas Department. In addition to the major islands listed below, Guadeloupe consists of an additional six named islands: Ile a Cabrit, Grande-Ilet, Le Pate, La Coche, La Redonde, and Les Rochas Percees.

Iles de Saintes

These islands, the Islands of the Saints, were first spotted by Christopher Columbus in 1493 and he named them for All Saints Day. Iles de Saintes consists of two islands, Terre-de-Haut Island (upper) and Terre-de Bas Island (lower). Located 6 miles (10 km) south of Guadeloupe, they were settled by French colonists in 1648 and experienced several skirmishes with British soldiers on the island. A major ship battle between Admiral Rodney for Britain and Admiral de Grasse for France in 1782, led to a 30-year occupation by British troops. The island was returned to France by the 1815 Treaty of Paris. Iles de Saintes is today an Overseas Department of France.

Marie-Galante

The island was spotted by Christopher Columbus on his 1493 voyage and was the second island he encountered on that trip. He even anchored his ships there and named the island after his ship (Galant Marie). In 1648 Jacques de Boisseret claimed the island for himself and for France and colonization was attempted in 1649 and 1653 but all were massacred by the Carib Indians. In 1654 he signed a peace treaty with the Carib Indians that allowed colonization. In 1664 Madam de Boisseret gave up her rights to the island. A Dutch fleet attacked the island in 1676 and either killed or enslaved the entire population and plundered the island. The island was not repopulated for 20 years until 1696. The British captured the island in 1759 and held it until the Treaty of Amiens restored the island to France. Again in 1808 the Royal Navy took the island to prevent privateers from using the harbor. The island reverted back to France in 1815 Treaty of Paris and Marie-Galante remains a part of the Overseas Department of France to this day.

La Desirade

Located at the eastern end of the Guadeloupean archipelago in the Lesser Antilles, it is about 5 miles (8 km) off the coast of Grand-Terre in the French West Indies. It was the first island sighted by Christopher Columbus on his

1493 voyage. Columbus landed and claimed it for Spain. It later became under the dependency of the French island of Dominica and French cotton farmers established themselves in 1568 and the island was known as a hideout for pirates that preyed on Spanish ships. Today La Desirade is a part of the French Overseas Department.

Saint Martin /Saint Maarten and St. Barthelemy/ St. Barts

Located in the Lesser Antilles they are the most northerly islands in the Lesser Antilles and 190 miles (300 km) east of Puerto Rico. Christopher Columbus discovered the islands in November 1493. The Dutch had used the island to get salt for many years beginning in 1620 and had to fight the Carib Indians. In 1633 the French were at war with the Dutch and invaded and took the island leaving many Dutch settlers in place. In 1633 both the French and Dutch agreed on 23 March 1633 to divide the island 60% French and 40% Dutch at the Treaty of Concordia. Eight miles (12.9 km) off the coast of St. Martin/St. Maarten is the small island of Saint Barthelemy or better known as St. Barts. This island is aligned with the French half of St. Martin and both are in the Collective of the Republic of France.

Saint-Pierre and Miquelon

There remain two islands off the coast of Newfoundland that are little known and often overlooked as being still owned by France. Most assume that France lost everything in the northern hemisphere when it lost Canada and the Maritime Provinces. The islands of Saint-Pierre and Miquelon lie 25 km off the coast and had been settled by Basques, Normans, and Bretons early in the 17th century to fish for cod. A little known and noticed provision in the 1814 Treaty of Paris allocated these islands to France for cod fishing and they must not be militarized. The islands became a collective of France in 1985 because of new rules in the European Union and are the only French islands in the western hemisphere not in the Caribbean.

ISLAND HISTORIES

The listing below documents the Caribbean Islands and their history of turnover by invasion and loss by various treaties that settled European wars. The list features all of the islands that France originally possessed and their loss and a listing of those islands that France ended up with. Note that all of the islands that France lost went to Britain by invasion or by treaty.

FRANCE IN THE NEW WORLD

ISLAND HISTORIES

ISLAND NAME	ORIG. Country Settled	DATE	HISTORY	CEDED TO
LOST ISLANDS				
St. Kitts & Nevis	Spain	Unk.	Originally Claimed	Spain
	France	1624	Originally Settled	France
		1670	Treaty of Madrid-Spanish claim	Britain
	France	1783	Treaty of Paris 1	Britain
Dominica	France	1632	Settled by French	France
		1748	Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle Island is Neutral	Both
		1759	British invade	Britain
		1763	French capture island	France
		1783	Britain captures island	Britain
Grenada	France	1498	Settled by French	France
		1763	Treaty of Paris 1- ceded to Britain	Britain
		1779	Invaded by French	France
		1783	Invaded by Britain	Britain
St. Vincent	France	1719	Colonized by France	France
		1763	Invaded by Britain	Britain
		1783	Treaty of Paris 1- ceded to Britain	Britain
St. Lucia	Britain	1605/1638	Colonies attempted- failed	Britain
	France	1650	Colonized Island- made peace with Caribs	France
		1660	Made peace with Caribs	
		1664	Invaded by Britain	Britain
		1667	Treaty of Breda- to France	France
		1722	Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle -to Britain	Britain
		1803	Treaty of Paris 2- ceded to Britain	Britain
Turks and Caicos	Spain	1512	Spanish slavers depopulated the islands	Spain
	France	1778	Occupied by French	France
		1783	Treaty of Paris 1- ceded to Britain	Britain
Montserrat	Britain	1632	Settled by Irish Catholics from St. Kitts	Britain
		1666	Invaded by French	France
		1667	reinvaded by French	France
		1667	Treaty of Breda- to Britain	Britain
		1712	Invaded by French	France
		1783	Treaty of Versailles- ceded to Britain	Britain
CURRENT ISLANDS				
Guadeloupe	Spain	Unk.	Spain colonized island	Spain
	France	1726	French colonized island- expelled Spanish	France
		1756	British invade island	Britain
		1763	Treaty of Paris- ceded to France	France
		1789	Invaded by Britain	Britain
		1794	Invaded by French	France
		1810	Invaded by Britain	Britain
		1813	Treaty of Stockholm- ceded to Sweden	Sweden
		1815	Treaty of Vienna- ceded to France	France
Iles de Saintes	France	1648	Settled by French	France
		1782	Invaded by British	Britain
		1815	Treaty of Paris 2- ceded to France	France
Marie-Galante	France	1649	Colony attempted and failed	France
		1653	Colony successful	France
		1654	Peace treaty with Caribs	France
		1676	Dutch raid depopulates the island	
		1696	French repopulate island	France
		1759	British invade island	Britain
		1802	Treaty of Amiens- ceded to France	France
		1808	British invade island	Britain
	1845	Treaty of Paris 2- ceded to France	France	
La Desiderade	Spain	1493	Claimed by Columbus not settled	Spain
	France	1468	Colonized by French	France
St. Martin/St. Barts	Dutch	1620	Dutch use the island to make salt	Dutch
	France	1633	France invades the island	France
		1633	Both agree to divide the island	Both

FRANCE IN THE NEW WORLD PART IX

CONCLUSIONS

By John F. Furey

France in The Age of Exploration



The 1492 voyage of Christopher Columbus set off an Age of Exploration and a competition to claim everything one could find in the New World. France was a major force in exploration during this age of exploration. Initially its explorations in the New World were widespread and the territories that France claimed were vast. The explorers that went out from France were some of the first ones in the northern New World. France and Britain were competitors in everything both in the New World and militarily in Europe. In the end, France was the biggest loser. After the initial discovery, exploration, and the founding of colonies, these colonial lands were traded like modern baseball cards between the large powers at peace conferences in their many treaties. The many military conflicts that took place in Europe always had far reaching consequences in the New World after the fighting was over and France was always the loser!

Loss of Canada and the Maritimes

In 1534 Jacques Cartier discovered and claimed the maritime coast and named Canada but it was not colonized until 1604. The Maritimes were settled first and in 1605 Port Royal was founded. Many Huguenots traveled to the Maritimes to escape the religious wars within the country along with, explorers, adventurers, and farmers looking for land and an escape from the French social structure. Sailing up the Saint Lawrence River, explorers claimed all of the continental land of Canada for France and fur trappers explored more and more land to the west and north. It was a huge continent and France had it. Trappers moved down the Mississippi River and founded many towns. In 1701 the French signed a treaty with the Iroquois and laid claim to the Ohio Valley (the Northwest Territory).

The first to go were the Maritimes, often called Arcadia. Britain invaded Arcadia but after the French loss in the Second Dutch-Anglo War at the 1667 at the Treaty of Breda, Arcadia and Canada were ceded back to France and Britain received the Dutch New Netherlands, New York, New Jersey, and western Connecticut. In 1710 Britain reinvaded and occupied the Maritimes and due to attacks by French from Canada, French Huguenots, and Indians allied with the French, the British banished a large majority of the French Huguenots from the Maritimes. Many went to French New Orleans and became the Cajuns. The French loss of the Seven Years War in Europe called the French and Indian War in North America, led to the 1763 Treaty of Paris. There, France ceded all of Canada by recognizing British sovereignty, ceded the eastern half of Louisiana (east of the Mississippi River) to Britain, and the islands of Dominica, Grenada, St. Vincent, the Grenadines, and Tobago. France got to keep the western part of Louisiana and the island of Guadeloupe which they considered more valuable than the huge land mass of Canada, the Northwest Territories, and Arcadia. The wealth generated by Saint Dominique/Haiti must have led to the decision to hold Guadeloupe for immediate wealth over possible future wealth from Canada. The island of Guadeloupe was viewed by Britain as a valuable asset as they invaded the island three times: in 1756, again in 1789, and finally in 1810. France held the island by once invading and defeating the British and retaining the island and twice via treaties.

France was allowed to retain its last foothold in North America, and to this day, two tiny islands 25 km off the coast of Newfoundland for cod fishing from the 1814 Treaty of Paris. The little-known islands of Saint-Pierre and Miquelam were settled in the early 17th century by Basques, Normans, and Bretons. They became a collectivite of France in 1985 and their change in status was due to some of the new EU rules. Cod fishing is the main occupation and export of the islands. The islands are subsidized by France and have an old-world charm of cobble stone streets and the language is French, Canadian French.

Loss of Texas

In 1685 France laid claim to Texas by explorer Robert Cavalier de la Salle. At the time maps were poor and France did not know the extent of what Texas was. On 3 November 1762 France abandoned its claim to Texas when it ceded all of the territory west of the Mississippi River to Spain in the Treaty of Fontainebleau after its loss in the Seven Years War.

The Loss of Haiti, the Invasion of Russia, and The Peninsula War

The slave rebellion in Haiti in 1791 and its loss to France was financially incalculable as Haiti was the jewel in the crown of French islands that created huge wealth for France. The timing just after the French Revolution of 1789-1790 when France was recovering from the Revolution and could not respond was a factor in its success. The French Revolution led the rise of Napoleon to the rank of general, his eventual dictatorship of France, and his costly military adventures that bankrupted France. After his planned invasion of Britain was cancelled, Napoleon took the island of Malta as a staging location and, from there, invaded Egypt in July 1798. On an early evening August 1798, British Admiral Nelson's fleet found the French fleet anchored off Alexandria, and immediately attacked and destroyed most of the French fleet. The loss of the French fleet with much of the supplies and money was partly the cause of the failed invasion of Egypt. Despite the loss of the army that Napoleon left behind and the loss of the French fleet at the battle of Alexandria, Napoleon returned to France a hero and in 1799 led a coup and became First Council of France. To generate money for his army, Napoleon sold the huge Louisiana Purchase in 1804 to the United States for 15 million dollars.

In 1805 Britain destroyed the combined French and Spanish fleets at the Battle of Trafalgar leaving Britain to rule the seas with a 900-ship navy and neither France nor Spain would ever regain great naval status again. Napoleon's 1807 invasion of Portugal through Spain, led to the six-year Peninsula War with his former ally Spain, and Portugal allied with Britain fighting him. To force Russia to comply with the Continental Trade System that Napoleon implemented to stop all trade with Britain, he invaded Russia in 1812. The Grande Armee was defeated at the gates of Moscow by the winter weather in Russia, was forced to retreat, and the army was destroyed during its winter retreat. With Russian forces moving toward France from the north and Spain, Portugal, and Britain from the south, there was no army to oppose them. These conflicts again caused France to be financially bankrupt.

With Paris occupied by the Russians, Spanish, Portuguese, and British, what exactly did the 1814 Treaty of Fontainebleau establish? Napoleon would be exiled to the island of Elba. Elba would be established as a separate principality ruled by Napoleon, he could take 400 men with him as a personal guard, he and his family could never rule in France. France would appoint a provisional government, and 150,000 French prisoners of war would be released. Napoleon offered to stepdown in favor of his son but that was rejected.

This set the stage when, eleven months later, Napoleon would land in France at Cannes with a small army of 1,500 men in March 1815 and march on Paris. Gathering many of the 150,000 former released prisoners of war, he was able to reformulate his army with experienced soldiers on his march north. Hearing of Napoleons return, the newly appointed King Louis XVIII evacuated Paris and fled to Belgium. In June, after reconstituting his army, Napoleon marched north to attack the British army under Wellington and the Prussian army under von Blucher who were encamped on the northern French border near Waterloo, Belgium. On 18 June 1815, Napoleon lost the battle, fled to Paris and in September, King Louis XVIII was restored. In September 1815 the Second Treaty of Paris was signed exiling Napoleon to the island of St. Helena, France was to provision 150,000 troops of occupation, pay a 700-million-franc indemnity, Switzerland was to be a neutral state, and Martinique and the Guadeloupe islands were to be restored to France as Britain had provisionally occupied them. The Napoleonic Wars had been a disaster for France and they were fortunate to get the islands back to help pay for the wars.

Loss in the Mexican War

After coming to power in 1861, Benito Juarez found that the Catholic Conservatives had left the treasury empty after accruing large debts to the European powers. To pay the internal expenses to keep the country operating, Juarez decided on a two-year moratorium on all foreign debt payments. England, Spain, and France were unwilling to accept a two-year delay. In December 1861 all three had fleets off of Veracruz. In January 1862 France landed an army in Mexico, supposedly to compel payment on the debt, but actually to take over the country. Using the debt payment as an excuse and in concert with Mexican monarchists, Napoleon III installed Austrian Archduke Maximilian as the new Emperor of Mexico on 29 May 1864. By January 1866 Napoleon III realized that he could not win in Mexico and announced he was withdrawing the troops. Maximilian remained behind convinced he could still rule Mexico and was executed in June 1867. This was the last attempt at territorial expansion in the New World by France and another loss.

Historical Treatment of Indigenous Peoples by the Europeans

In 1492 Columbus discovered the New World and landed on the island he named Hispaniola. The stated purpose of colonization was to convert the natives to Christianity and the Catholic Church supported this by sending priests and brothers to teach the natives. The real reason for colonization was gold, silver, slaves, wealth, titles and land. The Taino and Arawak's were immediately put to work digging for gold and silver. Within a few years all of the native slaves were dead from overwork, starvation, and disease. All of the other islands were scoured for native slaves and, before too long, they too died. The Spanish viewed natives as slaves and not souls to convert. Lacking natives to do the work, African slaves began being imported. In Haiti, the French began importing African slaves by the year 1500 and Haiti had been a plantation slave culture from its onset as there were no natives to deal with in Haiti and, like the Spanish, French treatment of slaves was also terrible.

In 1555 two shiploads of Huguenots sailed to Brazil and established a fort on the island of Serigipe and a colony town on the mainland called Henriville. They established good relations with the local natives and in 1567 when the Portuguese overran the fort and Henriville, they carried on a guerilla war with the natives against the Portuguese for 12 years. The Portuguese, like the Spanish, looked upon the local natives as slaves. When the Spanish conquered Caribbean islands, they immediately enslaved the natives to grow food and look for gold. In a short period of time the Taino and Arawak natives of many islands were extinct. In 1604 the Huguenots encountered their first native opposition when they attempted to found a colony in Maranhao, Brazil. The local natives may have had experience with Portuguese slavers and in 1616 the colony was abandoned. In 1626 the colony of Cayenne was founded in Guiana and, again, the natives opposed them and it may have been because of prior dealings with the Portuguese and possibly Spanish slavers. Eventually an accommodation with the natives was made and the colony prospered even to this day.

In 1562 Huguenots with Jean Ribault Founded Charlesfort on Port Royal Sound in what is today, South Carolina. They developed good relations with the natives and the natives even helped build the fort. When Ribault left for France and was unable to resupply the colony, problems at the fort arose among the colonists and then later with the natives The local Indians massacred the remaining settlers. Ribault's second attempt was at Fort Caroline, and no problems with the natives occurred. The Spanish attacked and took the fort and captured most of the shipwrecked soldiers and sailors. As the Spanish started executing the French many fled into the jungle preferring to take their chances with the natives.

The French Huguenots in the Maritime provinces had excellent relations with the Wabanaki Confederacy that consisted of the separate Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, Passamaquoddy, and Penobscot Tribes. They treated them as equals, traded with them and even intermarried. When Britain assumed the Maritimes and the Huguenots resisted them, the Indians fought with the French Huguenot. Even in Canada proper, the French traded with the Indians and established many trading posts to supply them and to trade for furs. The problems that the French had with the Iroquois was that the Iroquois were supplied first by the Dutch and later by the British and the Iroquois were expanding their territory into areas that French had good relationships with their Indian allies and

the French stood by their native allies. Later the Iroquois changed their allegiance from the British to the French.

When the Huguenots were exiled from the Maritimes and many moved to New Orleans and the Louisiana Territory, the Huguenots developed good relationships with the local Indians in western Louisiana-East Texas where they grew cotton, rice, and herded cattle on their farms and ranches. It was only on these rice and cotton plantations where they had their first experience with owning African slaves. They did not attempt to enslave the local indigenous Indians. The Huguenots thought that they were moving to a French controlled Louisiana but France had secretly ceded the Louisiana Territory to the Spanish when they could not get Spain to cede Florida to them. France got the Louisiana Territory back from Spain and promptly sold it to the United States. This territory was filled with indigenous people who would later rebel against the US for incursions into their territories as the US expanded west.

What Was the Moral Basis Of The Poor Treatment Of Indigenous People By Europeans?

Europeans in the 1400's viewed non-Europeans as below white Christians (both Protestant and Catholic) and they were justified in subjugating them because of both racial and religious reasons. This mindset was a result of past dealings with Asians and Africans and feelings of racial superiority as European societies grew economically and militarily stronger. Christianity in Europe also fostered this as only white Europeans were Christians. With the discovery of the New World in 1492 by Columbus, Europeans were presented with lands inhabited by people at a much lower economic, organizational, and military level who could be easily subjugated and, as added bonus, they were non-Christians. But how could 'moral Christians' reconcile this immediate enslavement of the population of the "savages"?

Economic greed of gold, silver, and land came first as each of the conquistadores saw personal greed as their reason for even being in the New World. It was only later that Catholic church teachings attempted to impart a religious aspect to the treatment of the conquered people. Greed was quickly overlooked when there were so many new souls to save but an excuse of this non-Christian behavior was required. This came in the form of Papal Bulls and the concept of the Doctrine of Discovery. The first Papal Bull was issued by Pope Nicholas V in 1452 during the initial Age of Discovery. In 1493, one year after the discovery of the New World, the second Papal Bull was released by Pope Alexander VI, called the Inter Caetera, that actually justified this behavior on the basis of two things: land and religious conversion. These Papal Bulls were issued to the kings of Spain and Portugal that authorized them to colonize non-Christian land and to enslave the indigenous population in order to convert them to Catholicism. Both the Spanish and Portuguese went about this with a religious zeal. You could justify your behavior as having a basis in your religion and that killing them to save their souls was authorized by the church itself. Pizarro in Peru offers us an excellent example in his treatment of Atahualpa, the Inca ruler. He offered Atahualpa the option of burning at the stake as a heretic of converting to Catholicism to save his soul and being garroted instead. The lengths that the Spanish and Portuguese went to enslave the indigenous peoples are legendary.

It is interesting to note that the Papal Bulls were not issued to the King of France, another mainly Catholic country. Catholicism was the main religion of France and despite a small Huguenot population and religious wars that spanned 70 years, France was left out of this. It was probably because the Pope had divided the New World between Spain and Portugal and France was perceived to not be involved in conquest and the saving of souls. Because of this, or perhaps in spite of this, the French developed a much different mindset in dealing with indigenous people in new lands; they tried to trade with them as equals, made treaties, and even intermarried.

A major aspect, and continuing problem of the Doctrine of Discovery today, was its treatment of land. Lands that were deemed 'undiscovered by the Christian world' could be considered open and claimed by the discoverer. Despite being inhabited by indigenous people they overlooked and ignored that a prior claim on these lands could be made. The added mission of Catholic conversion and the saving of souls was an additional justification for their behavior. Indigenous communities today are calling for the church to repeal the Papal Bull

of 1493 but it has fallen upon deaf ears. The reason for this is that much of the landholding in the New World today is based upon this concept and a repudiation of the doctrine would upset all of the landholding laws, grants by the crown, and land transfers we have. It has even been an argument in the United States as recently as 2005 before the Supreme Court that ruled that the federal government owned the land and not the American Indian tribes that claimed them. Doctrine from the 15th century is still being cited today.

On 30 March 2023, the Catholic Church finally rescinded the Doctrine of Discovery Papal Bull of 1493 at the insistence of many indigenous catholic groups saying that, “the Catholic Church ...repudiates these concepts that fail to recognize the inherent human rights of Indigenous People”. What that will do to the current basis of land grants by various crowns and land ownership is yet to be discovered.