market were offered to the cultivator. That the encouragement of that article in the colony is a matter of vast importance to the mother country cannot be denied, since with Canada, as the source of the naval supplies of Great Britain, not only those of timber but of hemp, England might consider herself far more independent than she now is in this particular of European commerce, and remain unhurt by prohibitory treaties that may, sooner or later, supervene to check her trade with the Baltic. The subject is one which we have always esteemed of great moment to the interests both of Great Britain and of the British provinces, and having given much time to its serious consideration, we would call the attention of the reader, who is desirous of more particular information upon this head, to the Appendix at the end of this volume, in which is printed a plan submitted to the society of arts and sciences in Canada, for encouraging the cultivation of hemp in the province, with a *vidimus* of the probable advantages to be derived by a company that might be formed for the promotion of that object.

An article in the productions of Lower Canada, which deserves to be particularized, is *maple sugar*, not only from the extent to which it is now manufactured in most parts of the province, but from the conspicuous place it holds in the estimation of the peasantry of the country. The process of obtaining it is extremely simple, and is so far, generally speaking, from being considered laborious, that the sugar season, which usually commences and ends with April, is rather deemed one of festivity than toil. The rapidity of vegetation, or more properly its cause, the almost sudden transition from cold to heat, appears essential to the production of the article, at least in any quantities, inasmuch as the copious exudation of sap from the maple-tree is the consequence of its being rapidly dissolved from a congealed state, and converted into a thin saccharine serum, which exudes through a puncture or incision made in the rind of the tree, about three or four feet from the root: in this incision a slender spigot is inserted to convey the liquid into troughs placed beneath for its collection, and thus is obtained the fluid whence the sugar is manufactured. The process of converting the sap into sugar is equally simple, and merely consists in boiling it until a sufficient degree of evaporation has taken place, to convert the liquid into a thick syrup which,

if it be intended to preserve the sugar in solid loaves, as is the most prevalent practice, is transferred to wooden or birch-bark vessels of various sizes, that become the moulds of the sugar when it has hardened. If it be meant that the sugar assume the appearance of muscovado, the sap is constantly stirred while boiling, until the moisture appears to have quite evaporated, when the residuum becomes friable, and perfectly resembling the West India sugar.

The average weight of sugar yielded by one tree is stated to be about 5¼ lbs., and in a country where, as in Canada, maple abounds, some estimation may be made of the possible quantity of that article which could be produced. Whether, however, it would be sound policy to encourage a systematic production of maple sugar in the province, is perhaps questionable, not only from its tendency to affect the consumption of West Indian commodities of that description, but also from its being a premium upon leaving large tracts of country in forest land, instead of being converted into corn and hemp fields, which appear to us the most valuable of the two purposes to which the soil could be devoted. Maple sugar will nevertheless ever continue a favourite luxury, if not a necessary, with the Canadian peasant, who has not unaptly been considered * as having for it the same sort of natural predilection that an Englishman has for his beer, a Scotchman for his scones, and a Mexican for his pulque.

Of late years agriculture has become a subject of particular solicitude in the province, and there have in consequence been formed, in the various districts, very intelligent societies, under the patronage of government, for its promotion, whose endeavours have in general been attended with considerable success. The premiums offered by these societies extend to most articles of produce, and particularly to the amelioration of stock-farming, an important branch of rural economy, which had hitherto been greatly neglected, but which is now become a subject of almost paramount interest in the estimation of the agriculturist. The exhibitions of cattle that take place every spring, under the auspices of the agricultural societies in the three districts, show an obvious improvement

* Political and Historical Account of Lower Canada by "A Native Canadian."

in the breed of horses, horned cattle, sheep, &c. The exhibition of produce is equally indicative of the progressive advancement of agriculture to higher perfection. Nor are the manufactures of the country left without some encouragement, premiums being offered for the best manufactured straw-hats, woollens, linens, &c. that usually bring out excellent specimens of the manufacturing abilities of the Canadian peasantry.

The annual and monthly reports of these societies usually contain hints and suggestions to the farmer, well calculated to aid him in his labours, if attended to. There are likewise in both cities, Quebec and Montreal, associations for the encouragement of horticulture, which have led to considerable ameliorations in the culture of garden fruits and vegetables. In fact, great pains are taken, as well by the legislature as by public associations and individuals, to promote the agriculture of the province in all its branches; and there is no doubt, that the monies liberally voted by the house of assembly, to be laid out in premiums, under the judicious control of the agricultural societies, added to the influence of individual zeal and example, will ere long eradicate some of the older prejudices, to which the Canadian agriculturist remains still attached, and introduce the more enlightened system of cultivation now applied so successfully in Europe.

CHAPTER XIV.

Tenures in Lower Canada.

WHEN Canada was first established as a colony of France, the feudal system still prevailed in Europe, with much of its original gothic vigour, and, as might naturally be expected, its spirit as well as its practice were at once transferred to those distant possessions, and the lands therein universally granted under the feudal tenure. However, as the settlements of the country progressively acquired strength and consequence, and its government became a subject of more immediate solicitude to the French crown, a variety of modifications were, from time to time, introduced in the feudal code, that tended on the one hand to abridge the exorbitant privileges of the seigneur, and on the other to add to the independence of the vassal. These modifications, combined with the tacit relinquishment of several rights that formerly attached to feudality, but which have since become obsolete, have given to the feudal tenure in Lower Canada peculiarities that belong to itself, and which seem singularly well adapted to the local circumstances of the country.

It was not until 30 years after the conquest, in 1759, that the tenure in free and common soccage was effectually introduced, although the most strenuous endeavours appear to have been used long before by the loyalists, who had emigrated from the revolted colonies to the province of Quebec, to obtain from the mother country an abandonment of the seignorial tenures, and the adoption of those to which they had hitherto been accustomed.

The remarkable delicacy manifested by the imperial government on this subject is an instance of the magnanimity of a conqueror that cannot fail to add lustre to the British name, whilst its recollection must tend to draw the link still closer between the mother country and the colony. That it was intended to leave the inhabitants in the ample enjoyment of

their ancient usages, religiously to respect and protect their laws and institutions, and in furtherance of this intention, to propagate the original tenures of the province, is evident from the 38th article of his late most gracious majesty George the Third's instructions to Guy Carleton, Esq., the governor of the country, in 1775 *.

Nor was this the only manifestation of his late majesty's most gracious pleasure on this subject, for we find that, in the 40th article of the royal instructions, given to Lord Dorchester in 1786, after directing that the loyalists and disbanded troops should receive, as a reward for their services, grants of the waste lands of the crown, his majesty distinctly prescribes that the lands so to be granted should be held *en seigneurie* †.

By the 31st George III. chap. 31, commonly called in Canada the Constitutional Act, the province of Quebec was divided into the provinces

* "By our commission to you, under our great seal of Great Britain, you are authorized and empowered, with the advice and consent of our council, to settle and agree with the inhabitants of our said province of Quebec, for such lands, tenements, and hereditaments, as now are or shall hereafter be in our power to dispose of; it is therefore our will and pleasure, that all lands which now are or hereafter may be subject to our disposal, be granted in fief or seigneurie, in like manner as was practised antecedent to the conquest of the said province, omitting however, in any grant that shall be passed of such lands, the reservation of any judicial powers or privileges whatever:—and it is our further will and pleasure, that all grants in fief or seigneurie, so to be passed by you as aforesaid, be made subject to our royal ratification or disallowance, and a due registry thereof within a limited time, in like manner as was practised in regard to grants and concessions held in fief and seigneurie under the French government."

† "Such lands to be divided into distinct seigneuries or fiefs, to extend from two to four leagues in front, and from three to five leagues in depth, if situated upon a navigable river, otherwise to be run square, or in such shape and in such quantities as shall be convenient and practicable, and in each seigneurie a glebe to be reserved and laid out in the most convenient spot, to contain not less than three hundred acres, nor more than five hundred acres; the property of which seigneuries or fiefs shall be and remain vested in us, our heirs and successors; and you shall allot such parts of the same as shall be applied for by any of our said loyal subjects, non-commissioned officers, and private men of our forces, reduced as aforesaid, in the following proportions, that is to say," &c

"The said lands to be held under us, our heirs, and successors, seigneurs of the seigneurie or fief in which the same shall be situated, upon the same terms, acknowledgments, and services, as lands are held in our said province, under the respective seigneurs holding and possessing seigneuries or fiefs therein, and reserving to us, our heirs and successors, from and after the expiration of ten years from the admission of the respective tenants, a quit rent of one halfpenny per acre."

of Lower and Upper Canada, evidently with a view of dividing the feudal from the soccage lands of the country, in order to obviate as much as possible the confusion attendant upon a mixture of repugnant tenures. It is true that it is left *optional* with the grantee, by the 43d section of the act, to obtain his lands under the free and common soccage tenure, in the lower as well as in the upper province, but these grants were to be "subject nevertheless to such alterations with respect to the nature and consequences of such tenure of free and common soccage, as might be established by any law or laws by his majesty, his heirs and successors, by and with the advice and consent of the legislative council and assembly of the province."

Notwithstanding these repeated and powerful manifestations of the desire of the crown, to perpetuate the tenure of fief and seigniory in Lower Canada, as most consonant not only with the habits and feelings of the people, but consistent with a more uniform and systematic order of things, no fresh grants in fief were made after the conquest, if we except those of Shoolbred and Murray Bay, and the whole of the lands of the colony, not previously granted under the feudal system, are now considered as soccage lands, and are almost wholly laid out in townships.

By the ancient custom of Canada, lands were held immediately from the king *en fief*, or *en roture*, on condition of rendering fealty and homage on accession to the seignorial property; and, in the event of a transfer thereof, by sale or otherwise, except in hereditary succession, it was subject to the payment of a *quint*, or the fifth part of the whole purchase money, and which, if paid by the purchaser immediately, entitled him to the *rabat*, or a reduction of two-thirds of the *quint*. This custom still prevails.

The tenanciers, censitaires, or holders of lands *en roture*, are subject to some particular conditions, but they are not at all burthensome; for instance, they pay a small annual rent, usually between 2*s*. 6*d*. and 5*s*. for each arpent the farms have in front (though in many seigniories the rents of new concessions have been considerably increased); to this is added some article of provision, such as a couple of fowls, or a goose, or a bushel of wheat, or something else of domestic consumption. They

are also bound to grind their corn at the *moulin banal*, or the lord's mill, where one-fourteenth * part of it is taken for his use as *mouture*, or payment for grinding; to repair the highways and by-roads passing through their lands, and to make new ones, which, when opened, must be surveyed and approved by the grand voyer of the district, and established by process verbal †. Lands are sometimes held by *bail emphitéotique*, or long lease of 20, 30, 50, or any number of years, subject to a very small rent only. *Franc aleu* is a freehold, under which lands are exempt from all rights or duties to seigneurs, acknowledging no lord but the king ‡. *Censive* is a feudal tenure, subject to an annual rent, paid either in money or produce.

The seigneurs, by the old laws that have now become obsolete, were entitled to constitute courts, and preside as judges therein, in what is denominated *haute, moyenne, et basse justice*, which take cognizance of all crimes committed within their jurisdiction, except murder and treason. This privilege has lain dormant ever since the conquest, nor is it probable that it will ever be attempted to revive it, as such ample provision is made for the regular administration of the laws. The *lods et ventes* constitute part of the seigneur's revenue. It is a right to a twelfth part of the purchase money of every estate within his seigniory that changes its owner by sale, or other means equivalent to a sale. This twelfth is to be paid by the purchaser, and is exclusive of the sum agreed upon between him and the seller; for prompt payment of it a reduction of a fourth part is usually made. In cases of a sale of this nature the lord possesses the *droit de retrait*, which is the privilege of pre-emption at the highest bidden price, within forty days after the sale has taken place; it is, however, a privilege but seldom exercised. All the fisheries within a seigniory contribute to increase the proprietor's revenue, as he receives a tithe of all the fish caught, or an equivalent sum.

* It appears that the rate of *mouture* is higher in the United States, where the greatest competition obtains, and that it stands at one-twelfth.—*Land Reports, H. A. L. C.*

† In the Appendix will be found a formula of the *censitaire's* title, or *bail à cens*, which is best calculated to convey a knowledge of the precise conditions of the grant.

‡ The only two fiefs in franc aleu in the province were those of Charlesbourg, near Quebec, and 600 arpents near Three Rivers, granted to the late order of jesuits, and now reverted to the crown.—*Cugnet.*

Besides these rights, he is privileged to fell timber anywhere within his seigniory for erecting mills, repairing roads, or constructing new ones, or other works of public and general utility. Lands held by Roman catholics, under any of the afore-mentioned tenures, are further subject to the payment to their curates of one twenty-sixth part of all grain produced upon them, and to occasional assessments for building and repairing churches, parsonage-houses, or other works belonging to the church.

It may be thought, from the foregoing enumeration of the obligations of the feudal tenant or *censitaire*, that his condition is by no means so happy as to render a propagation of the seignorial tenure very desirable; but, however these obligations may in theory appear numerous or oppressive, they are not at all considered so in practice, and the *habitant* of the country would not willingly forego his present modified vassalage, if indeed the independent condition of the Canadian *censitaire* can be so called, for the most absolute freehold. In looking a little farther into the comparative advantages of both systems of tenure, at least as regards the early settlements of a country, it will perhaps be found that the feudal system is the best calculated to aid and promote the first steps of colonization, from the circumstance of its requiring less capital, and of its concentrating the energies of a new settlement, in such a way as to enable the settlers mutually to assist one another, whilst, superadded to these advantages, they collectively enjoy the countenance, aid, and protection of the seigneur, who is himself interested in the prosperity of a rising colony, that is to give value to his property. The seigneur is, in some instances, bound to open roads to remote parts of his fief, and is expected to provide the settlers with the means of grinding their corn, by the erection, within the seigniory, of a competent mill for that purpose.

The conditions of the title are also such as to forward the settlement of the country, from their being imperative upon the censitaire to cultivate and reside on the land, *tenir feu et lieu*, within a year and day from the date of the concession *. The seigneur cannot dispose, by sale, of

* "Sont tenus tous censitaires en la province de défricher, mettre en culture et tenir feu et lieu sur les terres à eux concedées par les seigneurs, dans l'an et jour, datée de leurs titres; sous peine de réunion de leurs terres aux domaines des seigneurs."—*Cugnet, art.* 43.

forest lands, but is bound to concede them, and, upon his refusal to do so, the applicant may obtain from the crown the concession he requires, under the usual seignorial stipulations, in which case the rents and dues appertain to the king*. We are not aware, however, of any recorded instances of this having taken place in the colony.

It has been observed, in speaking of the agriculture of the country, that a very minute subdivision of the feudal lands in Lower Canada has taken place, arising out of the equal division of property by inheritance. But the tendency of the law which prescribes such a mode of succession, *i. e.* that of reducing farms to mere shreds, was provided against by an ordinance of the French king, dated the 28th April, 1745, registered in the province†, the provisions of which were strictly enforced up to the period of the conquest. It formally prohibited all censitaires in the seigniories from building their houses and stables upon lands that were less than one arpent and a half in front, by a depth of 30 or 40, under a penalty of, 1st, 100 livres *tournois*, to be applied to the relief of the poorer families of the place, and, 2ndly, to the demolition of such houses and stabling. They were, however, allowed to erect barns upon lots of inferior extent for the reception of produce, and even these barns, it appears‡, were to be built of wood only.

The effect of this salutary ordinance was to oblige the junior branches of the family to repair to the new lands, to bring the seigneur's estate more rapidly under cultivation, to leave the immediate ancestor, or the co-heir, in a greater degree of ease and independence; in fact, its operation was attended with consequences beneficial to all parties. It was, however, imperceptibly departed from, and the condition of the *habitant* has in most seigniories become evidently deteriorated, the increase of tillage not having kept pace with the increase of population. It is proper, nevertheless, to observe that, of later years, less reluctance has been manifested by the younger members of the Canadian peasantry to leave the paternal roof for the establishment of new farms, and the opening settlements in the remote concessions of the seigniories are evidence of the

* Cugnet, art. 44.

† Edits and Ordonnances, vol. i. p. 551.

‡ Cugnet, art. 45.

fact. Yet it cannot be said, that they have overcome all their scruples relative to the occupation of township lands, with the tenure of which they are unacquainted; but the strong aversion they have always betrayed to removing beyond the sight of the parish spire, or the sound of the parish bell, is gradually wearing away; more, however, from having become familiar with the subject and circumstances of new settlement, than a diminution of those neighbourly and social habits that characterize the honest and virtuous peasantry of the country.

The total quantity of land granted *en seigneurie* in the province exceeds 12,000,000 superficial French arpents, or about 15,390 square miles: that laid out in townships, under free and common soccage, amounts to 6,300,000 acres, but of this quantum not more than one-half is actually granted, and the residue of the province remains unsurveyed, and is generally known under the denomination of *waste lands of the crown*, and liable as such to be granted *en fief* and *seigneurie*, or in soccage at his majesty's pleasure,

The soccage tenure, which is in fact the *franc aleu roturier* of the feudal system *, is probably more in accordance with the spirit of the age than the *censive*, and it cannot be denied that in some respects it is well fitted eminently to promote individual industry and enterprise, the landholder being wholly unshackled by any condition whatsoever, neither rents, *corvées*, mutation fines, *banalité* or the obligation of grinding his corn at the seignorial mill; in fact, the soccage freeholder is bound to no other obligations than those of allegiance to the king and obedience to the laws. The township settlements of the province, although the date of their commencement is comparatively recent (1798), now compose a very flourishing and interesting section of the country, and although their population at present bears but a small proportion to the population of the whole province, the rapidity of its increase, both natural and contingent, as arising from emigration, must ere many years throw considerable weight into the scale of their importance. The inhabitants of the townships have, however, been hitherto exposed to much embarrass-

* "Franc aleu roturier est terre sans justice ou seigneurie, pour laquelle le detenteur ne doit cens, rentes, lots, et ventes, ni autres redevances." *Coutume de Paris, art.* 68, *Cugnet thereon, art.* 32.

ment, from the particular mode in which soccage lands were originally distributed, every second and third lot, alternately, in each range being reserved for the crown and the protestant clergy, whereby one-seventh of the whole township remained, appropriated by law, for the future disposition of his majesty's government, and one-seventh for the maintenance and support of the church of England in the province. We have already, in another part of this work, noticed the tendency of these reservations to interfere with the contiguity and prosperity of the settlements of the townships, and remarked the judicious change, in this respect, that took place under the administration of the Earl of Dalhousie; the chequered system having, in numerous cases, been superseded by the plan of *blocking* the reserves, that is, the appropriation of two distinct tracts within each township, one of which contains the seventh reserved for the crown, and the other the seventh reserved for the clergy, and these tracts are generally so situated as to prevent their interference with the settlements at a time when, from their infancy, great injury is sustained by the interloping of unimproved lands.

Another drawback upon the inhabitants of the townships, which has hitherto operated against the advancement of the settlements, is to be found in the extensive tracts originally granted by government to leaders and their associates *, under conditions that were never fulfilled by the grantees, who have, nevertheless, by themselves, or their representatives, continued the proprietors of the soil, which is left uncultivated, and an almost insuperable check to the progress of agricultural improvement. The indulgent forbearance of his majesty's government towards the holders of these lands originated in the knowledge of the difficulties that formerly attended the clearing and cultivating of forest land, but a due regard to the interests of actual settlers and to the progressive im-

* The term leader applies to the person who made the necessary applications, and incurred all the expenses previous to obtaining the patent, and also paid all fees that became due on the issuing of the patent for a grant of land. By the royal instructions which were made known in the year 1796, each leader had a right to make an application and obtain for himself and thirty-nine associates twelve hundred acres of land each; but, in consideration of the heavy expenses which the leader was obliged to incur, previous to his obtaining the grant, a bond was generally entered into between the leader and the associate, by which the latter bound himself to convey to the former one thousand acres out of his twelve hundred.

provement of the province, has induced his majesty's government to resort to measures calculated to compel the proprietors of the soil forthwith to settle their lands, under penalty of cancelling their letters-patent, and re-annexing the grants to the territory of the crown. For this purpose the creation of a court of escheats is provided for by 10th section of an act of the imperial parliament, 6th Geo. IV. chap. 59, which authorises the governor, lieutenant-governor, or person administering the government of the province, to constitute and appoint one or more commissioners of escheats and forfeitures of land within the said province. These commissioners are empowered to inquire from time to time, on information being made and filed by the attorney or solicitor-general of the province, into the liability of lands to escheat, by reason of the non-performance of the conditions of settlement, and the verdict of a jury of twelve men, to be summoned in the usual way, is to be obtained of the fact, whereupon the forfeited lands become revested in his majesty; but it is provided, that the lands so forfeited shall not be regranted till after the expiration of one year from the date of their escheat, excepting "to the person or persons holding or claiming the same under the former letters patent thereof, or by a lawful title derived under the same." The clerk of the court is enjoined to give notice of the filing of any information within fourteen days, through the medium of the gazette, and moreover to have such notice posted in some public place, as near as possible to the lands described in such information, notifying all persons interested of the nature of the application, and the time of its investigation by the court, which time is not to exceed four months, or be less than two from the date of publishing such notice.

Under this act a commissioner of escheats has been appointed, and the court otherwise organized, but we are not aware that any case of forfeiture has yet been brought under its cognizance; but, situated as are large sections of the townships, there is no doubt that the functions of this court will not long remain inactive.

The British statute, by which the tribunal of escheats is created *,

* 6th Geo. IV. cap. lix. An Act to provide for the extinction of feudal and seignorial rights and burthens on lands, held à titre de fief and à titre de cens, in the province of Lower

is not confined to that object alone, but extends to matters far more general and important, as respects the tenures of the country. Its principal enactment has in contemplation the conversion of the feudal into the free and common soccage tenure, for which purpose the proprietors of fiefs and seigniories are authorised to apply to his majesty for a commutation of the burthens that attach to the tenure, and to receive a regrant of the same under free and common soccage. This commutation the seigneur is himself bound to grant to his censitaires, should any application be made to that effect, in consideration of an indemnity to be amicably agreed upon or fixed by experts or appraisers.

Canada, and for the gradual conversion of those tenures into the tenure of free and common soccage, and for other purposes relating to the said province. 22d June, 1825.

§ I. 3 Geo. IV. c. 119. Recited, Persons holding fiefs or seigniories may, on application to his majesty, and, on surrender of the ungranted parts thereof, obtain a commutation and release of feudal burthens due to his majesty thereon. Such fief or seigniory may be regranted to the proprietor in free and common soccage.

§ II. Feudal and seignorial rights on the granted parts of such seigniory not to be affected, until a commutation thereof shall be obtained as hereinafter provided.

§ III. Persons holding lands in fief, and obtaining a commutation as aforesaid, shall be bound to grant the like commutation to those holding under them, if required; for such price or indemnity as shall be fixed by experts.

§ IV. Seigniors or others refusing to grant such commutation may be impleaded in a court of law, and such commutation may be awarded by such court to the party requiring the same, on payment of the price of indemnity.

§ V. Such commutation having been voluntarily agreed upon, or awarded by a court of law, all feudal rights and burthens shall cease upon the lands for which the same shall be granted, and the tenure be converted into free and common soccage.

§ VI. Nothing herein contained to extend to discharge arrears.

§ VII. Persons applying for such commutation to give public notice to mortgagees and others having claims on such lands.

§ VIII. Lands holden in free and common soccage in Lower Canada to be subject to the laws of England.

§ IX. Certain parts of the coast of Labrador and adjacent islands reannexed to Lower Canada, 49 Geo. III. c. 27, 5 Geo. IV. c. 67.

§ X. Court of escheats may be constituted in the said province, to try forfeitures of uncultivated lands, liable to escheat to the crown. Court how to proceed. Inquests to be returned. No new grant of escheated lands to be made for one year.

§ XI. Notice to be given. Parties interested may traverse inquests.

§ XII. Certain parts of the clergy reserves in the said province may be surrendered, exchanged, and regranted for certain public uses and other purposes.

The substance of the act will be sufficiently collected from the note at the foot of the preceding page, and its title must appear abundantly explanatory of its object. It is obviously intended to effect one way, what the constitutional act was meant to accomplish another, that is, the extinction of repugnant tenures; with this difference, however, that the 31st Geo. III., chap. 31, tended to leave to Lower Canada its ancient tenures, whilst the Canada tenures bill aims at the conversion of the seigniories into soccage lands. That it is extremely desirable to do away with the existing distinction of tenures in the province, no one can doubt, who is aware of the perplexity it produces, from the total disparity of the laws by which the different tenures are respectively governed; but strongly attached as it is well known the Canadians are to the feudal system, it is not probable that the seignorial will yield to the soccage tenure, nor have the seigneurs of the country hitherto manifested the least desire of surrendering their present privileges, to avail themselves of the latitude given them by the act in question, of commuting the burthens which they themselves bear as the direct grantees of the crown. Since the promulgation of the law in 1825, two instances only of applications having been made, under the sanction of that act, are recorded, viz. one by the seigneur of St. Anne la Pocadiere, for the conversion, into free and common soccage, of one of the unsettled augmentations of his seigniory, and another by the seigneur of Grondines for a part of his fief. Indeed we have reason to think that applications of that description will be of rare occurrence hereafter, and that the end for which the statute was passed will in consequence be frustrated. When we reflect that a conversion of tenure carries with it a conversion of law, that the effect of a man's holding a farm in soccage instead of *en roture* is to alter the rule of descent by inheritance, to change the whole body of the law applicable to real property, and thus to introduce objects totally strange and novel to the censitaire; it is not surprising that insuperable obstacles should bar the success of any effort to prevail on the Canadian agriculturist to forsake his old tenure, and relinquish those laws and usages to which he is from long familiarity so inveterately attached.

CHAPTER XV.

Militia of Lower Canada.

THE plan of converting the mass of the male inhabitants of a country into an organized military force, is obviously one of the vestiges of feudal government, which has been retained, divested of its feudal tyranny, as the most effectual means of combining the numerical strength and physical energies of the people to repel invasion on an emergency. By making every man a soldier, a competent degree of military spirit is kept up, *which prepares the people for the defence of their country*; whilst the circumstance of indiscriminately throwing into the ranks, the higher as well as the lower classes of society, seems to give a patriotic effect to the service, which adds more dignity to its character, and inspires the inferior orders, which constitute the chief body of the militia, with a greater degree of confidence and zeal.

The militia forces of Lower Canada, exclusive of volunteers, consist of 85 battalions, whose average strength ranges from 900 to 1,500 men each; their aggregate effective strength exceeding 90,000 rank and file, and the total number of officers being about 2,200. The volunteer corps consists of six troops of light cavalry, three artillery and three rifle companies, whose united numbers, including officers, do not perhaps amount to 800 men, but the martial ardour, and the spirit of discipline that characterize these corps are such as to render them very efficient, should any event occur to call their services into action. Viewed in the light of a school for military discipline, these corps are extremely useful; and as they are generally composed of young gentlemen of respectability, they may be considered as a means of supplying the militia of the province with effective and well-trained officers, capable of heading their troops and companies with honour to themselves and advantage to the service, should it ever be expedient to call out and incorporate any part of the sedentary militia of the province.

The following tabular statements will show the precise strength of the militia at four different periods, and the aggregate number in the actual possession of arms.

Recapitulation of the Strength of the Militia of Lower Canada in the years 1807, 1811, 1815, *and* 1827, *from the Adjutant-General of Militia's Returns.*

Year.	No. of Companies.	Staff, or Etat-Major.								Officers.					Militiamen.						Militiamen from 18 to 25 years.	Do. from 18 to 40 years.	Muskets.
		Colonels.	Lieutenant-colonels.	Majors.	Aide-majors & Adj	Quarter-masters.	Surgeons.	Chaplains.	Orderly-serjeants.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Aide-majors & Adj	Serjeants.	Bearing arms.		Absent.	Infirm.	Exempt.	Total.			
															Married.	Unmarried.							
1807	460	23	24	31	41	3	3	2	10	447	495	408	37	1,435	30,535	14,176	528	2,409	3,441	54,072	12,610	18,313	10,044
1811	478	20	25	30	34	3	4	2		436	507	412	42	1,441	31,835	14,723	517	2,213	3,582	55,844	13,531	18,352	10,633
1815	510	23	63	63	44	18	7	8	5	483	506	454	117	1,691	27,008	14,554	794	5,306	3,250	53,929	11,010	26,039	7,413

Anno 1827.

Districts, &c.	No. of Battalions.	No. of Companies.	Staff, or Etat-Major.								Officers.			Serjeant-majors.	Quarter-master-serjeants.	Serjeants.	Militiamen from 18 to 59 years.		Total effective under arms.	Officers non-effective.	Serjeants non-effective.	Militiamen from 60 years and upwards.	Infirm.	Absent.	Exempt by law.	Total non-effective.	Grand Total en masse.
			Colonels.	Lieutenant-Colonels.	Majors.	Pay-masters.	Adjutants.	Quarter-masters.	Surgeons.	Assistant ditto.	Chaplains.	Aide-majors & Adj.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.				Unmarried.	Married.								
Quebec . . .	20	222		25	37	6	12	7	10	1	3	52	211	234	199	9	5	682	9,890	14,781	26,164	29	7	2,680	1,830	402	396	5,344	31,508
Three Rivers & St. Francis	9	94	2	8	11	1	6	2	4		2	10	85	91	77	4	3	323	4,190	5,841	10,660	34	3	1,009	994	125	179	2,344	13,004
Gaspé . . .	2	15		2	3		2						13	11	13			58	634	677	1,413	4	2	31	49	9	28	123	1,536
Montreal . . .	35	382	2	35	62	5	22	13	20	2	3	59	359	397	350	15	8	1,164	14,426	24,363	41,305	82	20	3,038	2,198	517	466	6,492	47,797
	66	713	4	70	113	12	42	22	34	3	8	121	668	733	639	28	16	2,227	29,140	45,662	79,542	149	32	6,758	5,071	1,053	1,069	14,303	93,845

N. B.—3,262 Muskets in the possession of Militiamen of the District of Quebec.
1,567 ditto ditto ditto Three Rivers and St. Francis.
95 ditto ditto ditto Gaspé.
5,479 ditto ditto ditto Montreal.

10,403 Muskets being the property of Militiamen.

The provincial statute 10th and 11th Geo. IV. chap. 3, a temporary act which expires on the 1st of May, 1832, provides for the regulation of the militia, and under its authority a new organization of the battalions took place under the administration of His Excellency Sir James Kempt, calculated to correspond with the recent subdivision of the province into counties. The distribution of the militia effected by this re-organization will be found in page 390 *et seq.*, where the limits of the different battalions in each county and in the towns are particularly defined.

By this act every able-bodied male inhabitant of the province above 18 and under 60 years of age, having resided six months in the country, is liable to serve as a militiaman, unless exempted by law. These exemptions are numerous, and extend not only to the clergy and all civil and military officers of his majesty's government, but also to persons having served as officers of militia before the passing of the act, to physicians and surgeons, notaries, land-surveyors, ferrymen, millers, schoolmasters, stewards of religious communities, and students in seminaries, colleges, schools, and academies. The qualification of officers above the rank of captain, required by the 5th section, consists in being the *bonâ fide* proprietor of a real estate worth 50*l.*, Halifax currency, per annum, an estate valued at half that annual amount being sufficient to qualify any person to hold a captain's or subaltern's commission. There is but one annual muster enjoined, fixed by the act, for the same day throughout the province, (29th June), and this muster takes place by companies and not battalions. In case of war, invasion, or imminent danger, the governor is authorized to call out one-fifth of the unmarried militiamen of the province under the age of 30 years, to be drawn from the different battalions by ballot, and be liable to serve six months.

Of the efficiency of the militia forces of Lower Canada to protect the province against foreign aggression, we have already had abundant proof during the late war with the United States of America, which elicited at once the loyalty, zeal, and bravery of the inhabitants. The exploit of Chateauguay, which shed so much merited lustre upon the name of a Canadian hero, the late Honourable Colonel L. De Salaberry, C. B, the battle of Chrystler's Farm, and several other engagements, in which the militia forces gallantly participated during the campaigns of 1813 and

1814, are no equivocal testimony of their devotion and attachment to their king and their country. The alacrity with which the inhabitants thus flew to arms whenever their services were called into the field *, offers a fair estimate of the unqualified reliance to be placed upon their fidelity, should it ever be necessary again to appeal to them bravely to repel the attacks of an invader. The manifold blessings they enjoy, under the happy and free constitution and government extended to their country, are not viewed with indifference by the people, and they powerfully serve to generate and propagate the strongest attachment to the parent state; and whatever may be the legislative differences that have unfortunately prevailed from time to time in the province, there is perhaps not one heart but what glows with an honest and loyal affection towards his august sovereign, which it would require no ordinary injury to remove, and a very subtle political poison indeed to affect.

It is perhaps not forgotten that the Canadians, during the very heat of the provincial wars in 1775, before they could have had time to familiarize themselves with their new allegiance, stood nevertheless firm in the cause of loyalty; and that it was through the intrepidity of a party of Canadian boatmen, chosen and commanded by the late Commodore Bouchette, himself a French Canadian, that the then governor of the country, the late Lord Dorchester, was enabled, after escaping the most critical perils, to reach the capital of the province, where his arrival is well known to have alone prevented the capitulation of Quebec, and the consequent surrender of the country †. Such was the devoted feeling

* As a conspicuous instance of the zeal with which the inhabitants entered the ranks for the defence of the province, it may be stated that in less than seven weeks 157 rank and file were recruited by beat of drum in Quebec and its environs, whilst a still superior number was simultaneously raised in the districts of Montreal and Three Rivers, to form a corps of which I had the honour of being appointed major-commandant. The Canadian voltigeurs, so distinguished for services during the war, were levied with equal celerity.

† This exploit, which historians have related without nevertheless mentioning my late father's name, is circumstantially described in an History of Canada at the eve of publication in Montreal, by Dr. Labrie, a member of the house of assembly; and the substance of the description was communicated in London to the United Service Journal, from which the following extract is taken. The adventure, independently of its historical worth, is not void of interest, and it is therefore inserted at length:—

"In reverting to the history of the American revolutionary contest, no event will be found

of the people in Canada so soon after its conquest, and such is the loyal feeling that has been confirmed and propagated under the mild and beneficent government of Great Britain.

more strikingly illustrative of the extraordinary chances of war, than the perilous though fortunate adventure of the late General Sir Guy Carlton (then governor and commander-in-chief of the army in Canada), whose descent by water from Montreal to Quebec was effected with safety in the very teeth of danger, Montreal being already in the occupation of the American forces, under General Montgomery, and the shores of the St. Lawrence, for upwards of fifty miles below that city, possessed by the enemy, who had constructed armed rafts and floating batteries at the junction of the Sorel with the River St. Lawrence, to cut off the communication with the capital. Upon the successful issue of so hazardous an attempt is well known to have depended the preservation of Canada; and 'the taking of General Carlton, which appeared nearly certain, would have rendered its fate inevitable*.' But the happy arrival of the governor at Quebec at so critical a juncture, and the well-advised and active steps he immediately adopted, rescued, as it were, the country from the grasp of an enemy, and secured to Great Britain a footing on that beautiful portion of the continent of America, which circumstances threatened for ever to deny her. For this signal service Sir Guy Carlton was promoted to the peerage, with the title of Lord Dorchester."

"Foiled in several attempts to open their way to Quebec, General Carlton's armament were pursued, attacked, and driven from their anchors up the river by the provincials; 'so that as General Montgomery approached Montreal, immediately on the surrender of St. John's, the governor's situation, whether in the town or aboard the vessels, became equally critical †.' In this alarming dilemma, a clandestine escape from the surrounding enemy appeared the only alternative left; and an experienced officer, distinguished for his intrepidity and courage, was immediately sent for to concert measures for the general's precipitate departure. Captain Bouchette, the officer selected for this service, then in the command of an armed vessel in the harbour of Montreal, zealously assumed the responsible duty assigned to him, suggesting at the same time the absolute necessity of the general's disguise in the costume of a Canadian peasant ‡, to increase the chances of escape, should they, as appeared probable, fall in with the enemy, whose gun-boats (chiefly captures) were cruising in various parts of the river.

"It was a dark and damp night in November. A light skiff, with muffled paddles, manned by a few chosen men, provisioned with three biscuits each, lay alongside Captain Bouchette's vessel; and under cover of the night the disguised governor embarked, accompanied by the Honourable Charles De La Naudière, his aide-de-camp, and an orderly serjeant whose name was Bouthellier. The skiff silently pushed off, the captain frequently communicating his orders in a preconcerted manner by a touch on the shoulder or the head of the man nearest him, who communicated the signal to the next, and so on. Their perplexity increased as they approached the Berthier Islands, from the knowledge that the enemy had taken up strong positions at this

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* Canadian Magazine, Vol. i. No. IV. p. 294. † Ibidem.

‡ Adolphus's History of George the Third's Reign, in relating this fact, gives the general the costume of a fisherman.

Number of Battalions of Militia in each County in the Province of Lower Canada, distinguishing the Volunteer Corps of Artillery, Cavalry, and Light Infantry, 1830.

ACADIE—Forms three battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the seigniory of De Léry. The *second* of the militia

point, especially on the islands south-west of Lake St. Peter, which commanded the channel on that side, and compelled their adoption of the other to the northward, though the alternative seemed almost equally fraught with peril, as American troops were encamped on its banks.

"The most imminent danger they experienced was passing through the narrows of Berthier, the shores of which were lined by American bivouacs, whose blazing fires, reflecting far on the surface of the waters, obliged them often to stoop, cease paddling, and allow themselves to drift down with the current, exhibiting the appearance of drifting timber, frequently seen on the St. Lawrence. So near did they approach, that the sentinel's exulting shout, 'All 's well!' occasionally broke upon the awful stillness of the night, indicating their perilous situation, increased by the constant barking of dogs, that seemed to threaten them with discovery. It obviously required the greatest prudence and good fortune to escape the vigilance of an enemy thus stationed. The descent, however, was happily effected by impelling the skiff smoothly along the waters with their hands for a distance of nearly *nine miles*.

"After ascertaining that the enemy had not yet occupied Three Rivers, they repaired thither from Point du Lac, nine miles from the town; and remaining there for a short space of time to recruit from their fatigues, Lord Dorchester and the whole party narrowly escaped being made prisoners by a detachment of the American army, who were now entering the town. Overcome by exhaustion, the general, leaning over a table in an inner room at Mr. De Tonnanceur's, fell asleep. The clang of arms was presently heard in the outward passage, and soon afterwards American soldiers filled the apartment adjoining that in which was the general himself. The governor's disguise proved his preservation; and Captain Bouchette, with peculiar self-possession and affected listlessness, walked into the governor's apartment, tapped him gently on the shoulder, and beckoned him away with the greatest apparent familiarity, to elude suspicion, at the same time apprising him cautiously of the threatening danger. Captain B. led the way through the midst of the heedless guards, followed closely by the general; and, hastening to the beach, they moved off precipitately in the skiff, and reached unmolested the foot of the Richelieu Rapid, where an armed brig (the Fell) was fortunately found lying at anchor, which, on the arrival of the governor on board, set sail for Quebec with a favouring breeze *."

"Arrived at the capital, the governor desired to land in Captain Bouchette's boat, and was accompanied by him to the Château St. Louis, where the important service he had just rendered his country was generously and magnanimously acknowledged in the presence of the assembled counsellors and notables.

"The successful defeat of the invasion of Canada, with the slender forces at the disposal

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* Quebec Mercury, April, 1814.

residing within the seigniory of La Colle. The *third* of the militia residing within the township of Sherrington.

BEAUCE—The militia residing within the above county form one battalion of infantry and one troop of volunteer cavalry.

BEAUHARNOIS—Forms two battalions. The *first* consists of the militia residing within the St. Regis Indian Lands, and the townships of Godmanchester, Hinchinbrooke, and Hemmingford. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniory of Beauharnois.

BELLECHASSE—Forms three battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the seigniories of St. Michel, Beaumont, and their augmentation, Vincennes, Livaudière, and the parish of St. Charles. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniories of Berthier, Bellechasse, St. Vallier, and augmentation, and the township of Armagh. The *third* of the militia residing within the seigniory of St. Gervais and townships of Buckland and Standon.

BERTHIER—Forms three battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the seigniory of Berthier and augmentation, Du Sable or York, fief Petit Bruno or part of Maskinonge, fief Chicot, part of Lanaudière, township of Brandon, the islands of St. Ignace and Du Pads, and all the other islands in the River St. Lawrence nearest to the said battalion, in whole or in part fronting the same. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniory of La Valtrie and augmentation, and the townships of Kildare, D'Aillebout, and De Ramsay. The *third* of the militia residing within the seigniories of Lanoraye, Dautray, and their augmentation.

BONAVENTURE—Forms one battalion.

CHAMBLY—Forms three battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the seigniory of Boucherville, fief Tremblay, that part of the parish of Longueuil which is within the county, and the two

of the commander-in-chief, and at so early a period after its conquest, when the country had comparatively but a few years before been transferred from the subjection of one sovereign to the allegiance of another, is an event that has immortalized the services of the late Lord Dorchester—one of the most popular governors Lower Canada ever had, and one whose successive administrations of the government of that province are still recollected with pride and pleasure by the people."—*United Service Journal, No.* XXVI *January,* 1831.

first ranges of the seigniory of Montarville. The *second* of the militia residing within the third range of the seigniory of Montarville, and of that part of the barony of Longueuil which forms the parish of St. Joseph de Chambly, known as Chambly West. The *third* of the militia residing within those parts of the parishes of St. Luke. Blairfindie, and St. John which are in the barony of Longueuil.

CHAMPLAIN—Forms one battalion.

DORCHESTER—Forms one battalion.

DRUMMOND—Forms one battalion of infantry and one troop of volunteer cavalry.

GASPE—Forms one battalion.

KAMOURASKA—Forms two battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the seigniories of Terrebois, Granville, and La Chenaye; L'Islet du Portage, Granville, and Kamouraska; and the townships of Bungay and Woodbridge. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniories of St. Denis, Rivière Ouelle and its augmentation, and Ste. Anne, and the township of Ixworth.

LA CHENAYE—Forms one battalion.

LA PRAIRIE—Forms two battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the seigniories of La Prairie de la Magdeleine and Sault St. Louis, with the islands fronting the same. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniories of Chateauguay and La Salle.

L'ASSOMPTION—Forms two battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the parishes of St. Sulpice, Isle Bouchard, Repentigny, and L'Assomption. The *second* of the militia residing within the parishes of St. Jacques and the townships of Rawdon and Chertsey.

L'ISLET—Forms two battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the seigniories of St. Roch des Aulnets, Reaume, St. Jean Port Joli, the township of Ashford and augmentation, the seigniories of L'Islet, Lessard, and Bonsecours. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniories of Vincelot and its augmentation, Cape St. Ignace, Gagnier, St. Claire, Rivière du Sud, and Lepinay, with all the islands in the St. Lawrence nearest to the said county, and in whole or in part fronting the same.

LOTBINIERE—Forms two battalions. The *first* composed of the

militia residing within the seigniories of Lotbinière and augmentation, and St. Jean des Chaillons and augmentation. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniories of Tilly or St. Antoine, Gaspé, St. Giles, Des Plaines, Bonsecours, and St. Croix.

MEGANTIC—Forms one battalion.

MISSISQUI—Forms one battalion of infantry and one troop of volunteer cavalry.

MONTMORENCI—Forms one battalion.

MONTREAL AND CITY—Forms eight battalions of infantry, two troops of volunteer cavalry, two companies of artillery, and two companies of rifles. The *first* battalion of infantry is composed of the militia residing within the Fauxbourg Ste. Marie, the division of Ste. Marie and St. Martin, and the division of La Visitation, country district. The *second* of the militia residing within that part of the town which is between the centre of St. Joseph-street to the south-west, Dalhousie-square, and the prolongation of Lacroix-street to the north-east; the River or Commissioner-street to the south-east; and Craig-street as far as Sanguinet-street, and from thence to the centre of St. Louis-street, Fauxbourg St. Louis, as far as Lacroix-street to the north-west; the Fauxbourg St. Louis and the division of St. Michel, country district. The *third* of the militia residing within that part of the town which is between the centre of St. Joseph-street to the north-east; to the centre of M'Gill-street and its prolongation to the south-east as well as the north-west; to the south-west of the small river, or the centre of Craig-street, to the north-west; the small river, commonly called River des Sœurs Grises, to the south-east; La Pointe à Callières and the division of the Tanneries, country district. The *fourth* of the militia residing within all that part of the suburb St. Lawrence, which is to the north-east of the centre of St. Lawrence-street, commonly called Grande Rue of the suburb of St. Laurent, as far as Sanguinet-street; 2d. the division of Ste. Catherine; 3d. the division of Côte de Notre Dames des Neiges, of the country district. The *fifth* of the militia residing within the west part of the suburb St. Lawrence, that is, all that part which is to the south-west of the centre of St. Lawrence-street, to St. Radegonde-street, and its prolongation; 2d. the suburb St. Antoine; 3d. the divisions of St. Antoine

and St. Luc, of the country district. The *sixth* of the militia residing within the suburbs St. Joseph and Ste. Anne, the divisions St. Pierre, St. Paul, and Island St. Paul, of the country district. The *seventh* of the militia residing within the parishes of Lachine, Point Claire, Ste. Anne, and Ste. Géneviève. The *eighth* of the militia residing within the parishes of Longue Pointe, Pointe aux Trembles, La Rivière des Prairies, Sault au Récollet, and St. Laurent.

The troops of cavalry and companies of artillery and rifles are composed of such militia residing within the county as may volunteer to serve in the same.

NICOLET—Forms two battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the seigniories of Nicolet and augmentation, Godfroy, Roquetaillade, and Bécancour. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniories of St. Pierre les Becquets, Gentilly, Cournoyer, Dutord, and townships of Maddington and Blanford.

ORLEANS—Forms one battalion.

OTTAWA—Forms three independent divisions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the townships of Lochaber and its augmentation, or Gore, Buckingham, and Templeton. The *second* of the militia residing within the townships of Hull, Eardley, Onslow, Bristol, and Clarendon. The *third* of the militia residing within the seigniory of La Petite Nation.

PORTNEUF—Forms two battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the seigniories of Deschambault, Lachevrotière, La Tesserie, Francheville, Grondines, reste des Grondines, and their augmentations. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniories of Gaudarville, Fossambault, Desmaures or St. Augustin, Guillaume Bonhomme, the seigniories Neuville or Pointe aux Trembles, Bourg Louis, Bélair and its augmentation, Dauteuil, Jacques Cartier, barony of Portneuf and Perthuis

QUEBEC—CITY AND BANLIEUE—Forms five corps, consisting of one battalion of artillery and four battalions of infantry. The battalion of artillery composed of the militia residing within the walls of the city of Quebec. The *first* of infantry of the militia residing in the lower town, within St. Nicholas-street, the easterly side of the same inclusively, and the

line of the Banlieue, bounded on the south by the River St. Lawrence, and on the north by the height of the cape, prolonged to the said Banlieue. The *second* of the militia residing within St. Valier and St. Roch suburbs, from St. Nicholas-street, the westerly side of the same inclusively, to the Banlieue of Quebec, except on the north side, where the River St. Charles shall form its limits. The *third* of the militia residing within St. John suburbs, from Côte St. Génevière to St. Joachim-street, the north side of the same inclusively, and from the walls of the city to the line of the Banlieue. The *fourth* of the militia residing within St. Louis suburbs and that part of St. John suburbs, from Artillery-street inclusively, to St. Joachim-street, the south side of the same inclusively, and from the walls of the city to the line of the Banlieue.

The first, second, third, and fourth battalions, extending to the Banlieue, are understood to extend to the utmost limits of the Banlieue of Quebec, and to include the same, saving the exception made with respect to the second battalion.

The militia residing within that part of the county of Quebec out of the city and suburbs, on the north of the River St. Charles, form two battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the seigniories of Beauport, Notre Dame des Anges, Dorsainville, and Lepinay, until intercepted by the Little River St. Charles, and the townships of Stoneham and Tewkesbury. The *second* of the militia residing within fief Hubert, the seigniories of Sillery, St. Gabriel, and fief St. Ignace.

RICHELIEU—Forms three battalions. The *first* composed of the militia of the seigniory of St. Ours. The *second* of the militia of the seigniories of St. Charles and St. Denis. The *third* of the militia of the seigniories of Sorel and islands Bonsecour, Bourgmarie, West Bourgchemin, and St. Charles de Yamaska.

RIMOUSKI—Forms one battalion.

ROUVILLE—Forms three battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the seigniory of Rouville and Chambly East. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniory of Monnoir and augmentation. The *third* of the militia residing within the seigniories of Bleury, Sabrevois, Noyan, and Foucault.

SAGUENAY—Forms two battalions. The *first* composed of the

militia residing within that part of the seigniory of Beaupré within the county, the seigniories of Du Gouffre, St. Croix, and Isle aux Coudres. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniories of Eboulements, Murray Bay, Mount Murray, and the township of Settrington.

SHEFFORD—Forms one battalion.

SHERBROOKE—Forms one battalion of infantry and two troops of volunteer cavalry.

STANSTEAD—Forms one battalion of infantry and one troop of volunteer cavalry.

ST. HYACINTHE—Forms three battalions. The *first* composed of thè militia residing within the limits of the parishes of St. Hyacinthe, La Présentation, and St. Damase. The *second* of the remaining three parishes of the seigniory of St. Hyacinthe, St. Pie, St. Césaire, and Abbottsford. The *third* of the militia residing within the seigniories of De Ramsay and of Bourgchemin East.

ST. MAURICE—Forms three battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within Ste. Marguerite, Three Rivers, and Banlieue, St. Maurice, Pointe du Lac, fief Gatineau, and the township of Caxton. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniories of River du Loup, Maskinongé, fief St. Jean and its augmentation, Carufel, and part of Lanaudière, and all the islands in the River St. Lawrence nearest to the said county, and in whole or in part fronting the same. The *third* of the militia residing within the seigniories of Grosbois or Machiche, fief Dumontier and Grandpré, and the townships of New Glasgow and Hunterstown.

TERREBONNE—Forms two battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the seigniories of Terrebonne, Des Plaines, augmentation of Terrebonne, Blainville, formerly part of Mille Isles, its augmentation, and the township of Abercrombie. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniory of Isle Jésus.

TWO MOUNTAINS—Forms three battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the seigniory of Mille Isles, or Rivière du Chêne, and Isle Bizarre. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniory of Argenteuil, the townships of Chatham, Grenville and its augmentation, Wentworth, Harrington, Arundel, and Howard. The

third of the militia residing within the seigniory of the Lake of Two Mountains and augmentation thereto.

VAUDREUIL—Forms two battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the seigniories of Vaudreuil, New Longueuil, Soulanges, Isle Perrot, and all the islands in the River St. Lawrence nearest to that part of the said battalion, and in whole or in part fronting the same. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniory of Rigaud, the township of Newton, and all the islands in the Grand or Ottawa River, and on the River St. Lawrence, nearest that part of the battalion, and in whole or in part fronting the same.

VERCHERES—Forms three battalions. The *first* composed of the militia of the seigniories of Vercheres, Bellevue, and the parish of Contrecœur, with the islands in front of the same. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniories of Varennes, St. Michel, and La Trinité, Guillaudière, St. Blain, Belœil, and its augmentation. The *third* of the militia residing within the parishes of St. Marc and St. Antoine.

YAMASKA—Forms two battalions. The *first* composed of the militia residing within the seigniories of Yamaska, Bourgmarie East, St. François, Pierreville, Deguire, and Lussaudière. The *second* of the militia residing within the seigniories of Baye St. Antoine and Courval.

CHAPTER XVI.

Outline of the Constitution, Government, and Laws of Lower Canada.

In forming the plan of government for Canada, the broad principles of the English constitution were introduced wherever it was practicable. In the upper province no impediments to this course of proceeding were met with, but in Lower Canada some small deviations were found necessary, in order to reconcile it to the genius of a people so long accustomed to a different regime.

Here, as in the sister province, the civil department is administered by a governor, who is generally a military officer and commander of the forces, a lieutenant-governor, an executive council, a legislative council, and a house of assembly, or the representatives of the people. The governor and lieutenant-governor naturally exercise their authority under the royal commission. The members of the executive council, amounting to eleven in number, derive their appointments from the king, and this body exercises a direction over the concerns of the province nearly similar to that of the privy council in the affairs of England. The legislative council, which, by the act of the constitution, was made to consist of fifteen members, is at present increased to nearly double that number, all of whom are appointed by mandamus from the king, and constitute what may be termed the second estate of the province, which, with the governor and the house of assembly or third branch, forms the provincial parliament.

The house of assembly is composed of eighty-three members, and is a copy, on a small scale, of the house of commons of the imperial parliament. The representatives are chiefly extensive proprietors of land, who are elected for the counties by the votes of persons being actual possessors of landed property of at least forty shillings clear annual

value: for the cities of Quebec and Montreal, and the boroughs of William Henry and Three Rivers, they are chosen by voters who must be possessed of a dwelling-house and piece of ground of not less annual value than five pounds sterling, or else have been domiciliated in the place for one year previous to the writs issuing, and have paid one year's rent, not under ten pounds sterling, for a house or lodging. There exists no disqualification either for the electors or the elected on account of religious tenets; for in this country, where toleration reigns in its plenitude, every one, whatever may be his faith, is eligible to fill any office or employ, provided the other qualifications required by law are not wanting.

The sittings of the legislature usually begin in January, and all the public and private business is in general gone through by the latter end of March, about which time it is prorogued, so that the session seldom exceeds the term of three months between January and April. Should parliament not be sooner dissolved, its duration is limited, by the act of the constitution, to the period of four years, when its functions expire, and writs are immediately issued for the election of another. At such a crisis, the independence and energy of the various voters, the professions and humility of the candidates, are as strikingly portrayed as in the more turbulent contests that take place on similar occasions in the mother country.

The governor is invested with power to prorogue, and in the exercise of his own discretion to dissolve, the parliament, to give or withhold the royal assent to bills passed by it, or to reserve them in cases of doubt or difficulty until his majesty's pleasure be made known thereon. Such acts as receive the governor's assent are usually put into immediate force, but his majesty may disallow any act so passed by the provincial parliament, within two years from the date of its arrival in England.

The acts that emanate from the provincial parliament are all of a local nature—such, for instance, as providing for the internal regulations of the country through the various departments; for its defence, as far as relates to enrolling and embodying the militia; and imposing taxes for raising the necessary supplies to defray the expenses of government,

over which supplies the legislature exercises a direct control. But any acts tending to alter or affect the constitution granted in 1791, the tithes, grants of land for the maintenance of the protestant clergy, the rights of presentation to rectories or the endowments of parsonages, whatever relates to the exercise of religious worship, or disqualification on account of religious tenets, the rights of the clergy, to changes or modifications of the discipline of the church of England, or of the royal prerogative on the subject of waste crown lands, must, after having passed the provincial legislature, be submitted to the British parliament, and receive the royal assent before they can pass into laws.

There exists in Lower Canada no regular code in which the laws of the land are systematically incorporated, nor would it, indeed, be a task of ordinary difficulty to collect and condense them, so divers are their elements, and so complex their character. The jurisprudence of the country may be said to embrace the French, the English, and the Roman or civil laws, and these are all so blended in practice, that it is often doubtful whence the rule of decision will be drawn, although the line of distinction is better defined in theory. The statute law of the province may be stated under five heads:—1st, The articles of capitulation, that form part of the guaranteed rights of the inhabitants; 2d, The 31st Geo. III. cap. 31, or the constitutional act, and all other British statutes expressly extending to the colonies; 3rd, The edicts, declarations, and ordinances of the Kings of France officially registered in the province; 4th, The ordinances of the governor and council anterior to 1792; and 5th, The acts of the provincial legislature subsequent to 1792. The text-book or common law, is the custom of Paris as modified by the customs of the country, and this law was co-extensive with the whole province until the passing of the Canada tenures' bill in 1825, which restricted the application of the French law to the feudal section of the colony, and introduced bodily the English laws to the remainder of the province. The criminal law of the province is the English code as it stood in 1774, and the statutes of a declaratory or modifying nature that have since passed the local legislature.

The judiciary consists of a court of appeals, a court of king's bench for the district of Quebec, one for the district of Three Rivers, and

another for the district of Montreal, three provincial courts, a court of vice-admiralty, escheats, quarter-sessions, and other minor tribunals for civil matters. The court of appeals is the highest legal tribunal of the province: it is composed of the governor, who is *ex officio* the president, the lieutenant-governor, the chief-justice of the province, the chief-justice of Montreal, and the members of the executive council, five of whom, including the president of the court, compose a competent quorum to hear and determine appeals. These appeals are instituted from judgments pronounced in the superior courts of king's bench, and when adjudicated upon are liable, if the subject-matter in contestation exceed 500*l.*, to be carried before the king in his privy council, which is the *dernier résort.*

The court of king's bench combines the jurisdiction of the king's bench and common pleas at Westminster. It has a civil and a criminal side, and an appellate as well as an original jurisdiction, inasmuch as appeals to it lie, in certain cases, from the decision of the provincial judges. At Quebec the court is composed of the chief-justice of the province and three puisne judges; at Montreal, of the chief-justice of the district and also three puisne justices; at Three Rivers the judges of the districts of Quebec and Montreal sit by turns, conjointly with the resident provincial judge. A puisne judge presides in each of the provincial courts, the jurisdiction of which is limited in the district of Three Rivers to 10*l.* sterling, and in that of St. Francis to 20*l.*, but in the district of Gaspé, by reason of its distance from superior tribunals, it is extended to 100*l.*

The governor, by virtue of his commission, is vice-admiral of the province; but the high and responsible duties of the vice-admiralty court, which sits at Quebec, are intrusted by commission to a judge-surrogate, who is also, though not necessarily, a judge of the court of king's bench. Of the court of escheats, as created by the 6th Geo. IV. chap. 59, a sufficient account has already been given in page 382. The quarter-sessions are courts holden in the different districts for the trial of misdemeanors, and crimes not involving capital punishment, for the regulation of the municipal policy, &c. They are governed in their jurisdiction, the form of proceeding, and the rule of decision, by the laws of England, and in fact are in almost every respect constituted as are the English courts of a similar nature.

As a consequence of the introduction of the British criminal code, the trial by jury is of course universal in all pleas of the crown; but in civil matters the appeal to the verdict of a jury is confined by statute to certain cases, viz. the demand must exceed 10*l.* sterling, the parties to the suit must be merchants or traders, and the subject-matter be grounded on debts, promises, contracts, and agreements of a mercantile nature only; or else the cause of action must arise from personal wrongs to be compensated in damages*. In all other cases, the judgment of the court is obtained both upon the fact and the law, and these cases compose about 3-4ths of the suits in the superior courts of king's bench.

The proceedings of the courts of justice, as well as those of the legislature, the printing of the laws, the publication of advertisements connected with legal process, are all, necessarily, in both languages, and it is not unusual to have party juries, one-half of whom understand English, and the other half French, only; which in general leads to the necessity of translating the address, the evidence, and the charge, and tends consequently to protract a cause to considerable length.

The judicature of the province, although not inefficient in its present state, is far from perfect; and measures are now pending in both houses of the legislature, calculated to amend it in its various branches. The distance of the seat of justice from very populous parts of the different districts, is a serious inconvenience to the inhabitants; not only by rendering suits enormously expensive, but from the loss of time consequent upon attendances in court under such circumstances. It is true that the circuit courts, which are holden every year in certain parishes of each district, meet in some degree this objection; but the jurisdiction of these courts is limited to 10*l.*, the circuits are only annual, and are in fact confined to but few places. The application of the English system of *nisi prius* would be a material improvement in the judicature of Lower Canada. It would extend the benefits of the trial by jury, give the parties an opportunity of being heard as it were on the spot, save costs, and otherwise facilitate the administration of justice.

* Provincial Order, 25th Geo. III. chap. 2.

CHAPTER XVII.

Sketch of Manners, Customs, and Character.

In a work professing to describe topography and statistics, a description of manners and customs will not probably be expected, nor indeed had we contemplated the consideration of a subject more strictly within the province of a different class of writers. It happens, however, that we have been recently anticipated in this task in a book under the title of "A Political and Historical Account of Lower Canada, by A Canadian;" and although we are far from coinciding in the politics of the author, and concurring in the views which he sometimes takes of his subject, we cannot withhold the cordial expression of our testimony to the graphical truth with which he has so admirably depicted the habits, usages, and character of the Canadian peasant. An attempt to improve upon so lucid and faithful a description would, perhaps, be worse than idle, and we shall therefore take the liberty of extracting largely from the 4th chapter of the work in question, and confine ourselves to occasional remarks as we proceed.

"Of the various circumstances connected with the habits and manners of a people, the most important are, *first*, the degree of difficulty experienced by them in obtaining the means of subsistence; *secondly*, the proportions in which these means of subsistence are spread over the whole mass of the population; and, *thirdly*, the quantum of the means of comfort which the people at large deem requisite to their happiness. Where the obtaining of subsistence is not a matter of overwhelming or exceeding difficulty, where the wealth of the country is spread in nearly even portions over the whole of the inhabitants, and where the standard of enjoyment is a high one, happiness must of necessity be the lot of that people. Such is the situation of my countrymen; and, from the

experience which my travels in various parts of the globe have given me, I well know that their comfort and happiness, excepting, perhaps, in the United States of America, can find no equal; and that the unfortunate peasant of Europe, apparently degraded in mind and worn out in body, exhibits a picture of wretchedness, which to the poorest *habitant* on the banks of the St. Lawrence would appear almost utterly inconceivable, and upon which his imagination could not dwell without surprise and disgust.

"The people, with hardly an exception, are proprietors of land, and live by the produce of their own labour from their own property. By the law of the country the property is equally divided among all the children; and from the small quantity of capital yet accumulated in individual hands, the divisions of land have become somewhat minute. Among the people of the United States there exists a roving disposition, that leads them in multitudes to make new settlements in the wild lands, and thus rapidly to spread civilization over the immense unreclaimed territories which they possess. This feeling exists not in Canada: the inhabitants, generally, are far from adventurous; they cling with pertinacity to the spot which gave them birth, and cultivate with contentedness the little piece of land which, in the division of the family property, has fallen to their share. One great reason for this sedentary disposition is their peculiar situation as regards religion. In Canada, as in all catholic countries, many of the people's enjoyments are connected with their religious ceremonies; the Sunday is to them their day of gaiety; there is then an assemblage of friends and relations; the parish church collects together all whom they know, with whom they have relations of business or pleasure; the young and old, men and women, clad in their best garments, riding their best horses, driving in their gayest *calèches*, meet there for purposes of business, love, and pleasure. The young *habitant*, decked out in his most splendid finery, makes his court to the maiden whom he has singled out as the object of his affections; the maiden, exhibiting in her adornment every colour of the rainbow, there hopes to meet *son chevalier:* the bold rider descants upon, and gives evidence of, the merits of his unrivalled pacer*; and in winter the powers of the

* The Canadians are peculiarly fond of *ambling* or *pacing* horses.

various horses are tried in sleigh or cariole racing: in short, Sunday is the grand fête—it forms the most pleasurable part of the *habitant*'s life; rob them of their Sunday, you rob them of what, in their eyes, renders life most worthy of possession. Moreover, the people are a pious people, and set an extraordinary value upon the *rites* of their religion. Take them where they may be unable to participate in these observances, and you render them fearful and unhappy. The consequence of all these circumstances is, that the Canadian will never go out singly to settle in a wild territory, neither will he go where his own religious brethren are not.

"The first occupation of the spring, or rather the end of the winter, with the Canadian farmer, is the making of his sugar *.

"The remaining operations of the farmer are nearly the same as in England; inasmuch as, with the exception of maize or Indian corn, the produce of the country is the same. The chief peculiarity of the situation of the Canadian is, that what he grows is rather for his own consumption than for the purposes of sale. Hitherto, for example, he has grown flax, for the purpose of making the greater portion of his linen; his corn is for himself; his cattle are fatted to be, for the most part, eaten in his own family; in short he nearly produces, at one time perhaps entirely produced, whatever he consumed. The introduction of English luxuries, however, has in some degree altered this: tea, English broadcloths and calicoes, cutlery, &c., now form part of the Canadian's necessaries, though the degree in which he is dependent solely on himself is far greater than that of an English farmer. In his own household are made the soap and candles he consumes: his shoes, or mocasins, are chiefly of his own or his wife's manufacture; so also with the greater portion of his clothing. This peculiarity, by multiplying the variety of his employments, serves in some measure to increase his sagacity, though the benefit is more than overbalanced by the loss of time necessarily attendant on this want of division of labour. Upon the whole, however, it may be safely asserted, that the means of subsistence are by the Canadian easily

* In speaking of the agriculture of the province, we have given some account of the mode of its production and manufacture.

obtained: his labour extends but through a part of the year, and during that period it is neither painful nor excessive.

"The comforts of the people, if compared with any other nation, are wonderfully great: their food, from their French habits, consists not of animal food to the same extent as that of the richer English, but is, nevertheless, nourishing and abundant. No griping penury here stints the meal of the labourer, no wan and haggard countenances bear testimony to the want and wretchedness of the people. I may say, I believe, without exaggeration, that throughout the whole Canadian population no instance can be found of a family unprovided with the complete and comfortable means of subsistence: the food, indeed, is oftentimes coarse, but always wholesome. From the length of the winter it is found necessary to kill in the autumn such stock as is intended for the winter's food: a great portion is immediately salted; some part is frozen; and thus though during the early part of the winter and the latter part of the summer the population live on fresh food, still for a great portion of the year their chief animal food is salted. With a little care, however, this might in a great measure be obviated.

"While the Canadians are thus universally well supplied with food, they are equally fortunate as to their clothing and their habitations. Till lately, the chief clothing of the population was wholly of their own manufacture, but the cheapness of English goods has in some degree induced a partial use thereof. Canadian cloth is, however, still almost universally used; and the gray *capot* of the *habitant* is the characteristic costume of the country. This *capot* is a large coat reaching to the knee, and is bound round the waist by a sash, which sash is usually the gayest part of the Canadian's dress, exhibiting usually every possible bright colour within the power of the dyer. This, with a straw-hat in summer, a *bonnet rouge* or a fur cap in winter, and a pair of mocasins made out of sole leather, complete the dress of the peasant. The women are clothed nearly after the fashion of a French peasant: a cap in place of a bonnet, with a dark cloth or stuff petticoat, a jacket (*mantelet*) sometimes of a different colour, and mocasins, the same as those of the men, form their every-day dress. On the Sunday they are gaily attired, chiefly after the English fashion, with only this difference—where the English wears one

the Canadian girl wears half a dozen colours. Here, as in the case of their food, no penury is manifest: an exceeding neatness in their persons, and cleanliness, that first requisite to comfort, mark the people to be above the influence of want, and to be in that state of ease which permits them to pay due attention to decency of external appearance.

"Of the habitations of the people I have already spoken. It is impossible, perhaps it would also be unnecessary, to give a minute description of the sort of houses which the farming population generally inhabit; suffice it to say, that they are generally constructed of wood, though, as the farmer becomes rich, he almost invariably changes his wooden for a stone house. For the number of the inhabitants, they are usually large and commodious. In the summer, from being low, they are generally uncomfortably warm, and in winter, by the aid of a stove, they are rendered completely uninhabitable by an European. The excessive heat in which the Canadian lives within doors is sufficient to kill any one, not from his infancy accustomed to that temperature. Without doors, however, the *habitant* bears with ease the piercing cold of the winter blasts,—

'Breasts the keen air, and carols as he goes;'

when any one, not a Canadian, would be compelled to take every possible precaution against its painful influence, and he passes with impunity and without pain from his house, in which the temperature is above ninety degrees of Fahrenheit, into the open air, oftentimes twenty-five or thirty degrees below zero.

"During my residence in France I failed not to visit a large number of the peasants' houses, and to investigate somewhat narrowly into their various customs and peculiarities. The resemblance between the interior of a peasant's dwelling in Normandy and on the banks of the St. Lawrence was, to a practised eye, close and remarkable: with the exception of the flooring, which in Canada is always of wood, in France of bricks or flat stones, every thing is nearly precisely the same; the chimney always in the centre of the building, the partition between the kitchen and the large room in which the inhabitants dwell, at each end of which are the small sleeping-apartments. 'Le lit principal, entourré de serge verte qui est suspendue au plancher du haut de la grande salle, par une

targette en fer, le bénitier et petit crucifix à la tête; la grande table à manger, la couchette des enfans sur des roulettes en bois au-dessous du grand lit, les différents coffres pour y déposer l'habillement du dimanche; l'ornement des poutres, la longue pipe, le tulle Français ou fusil à long calibre, la corne à poudre, le sac à plomb, etc. etc., m'ont fait penser plus d'une fois à la résidence de mon ami Jean Gilbeau de St. Joachim.'

"The houses are seldom of more than the ground floor; they are constructed sometimes of planks, sometimes of solid trees, and are universally white-washed. They are generally surrounded by a scrambling sort of garden, in which there are quantities of fruit, vegetables, and flowers, but in which the beautiful neatness of an English garden will be sought for in vain. The fence is formed of coarse pieces of split wood; the walks are but tracks traced of necessity, and without much reference to order; and the whole, though it yields abundance and comfort, yet adds little to the beauty of the scene. It is almost entirely under the management of the women, who, using in place of a spade a species of heavy hoe, called a *pioche*, may be seen labouring with laudable industry during the parching days of summer, each in the little plot of ground she designates her garden, careless of the burning influence of the sun, and ignorant that in other countries the toil she undergoes is deemed beyond the reach of female strength. In the United States of America, at least in the northern and eastern states, such a sight is never seen: there the women take little or no part in the out-door work of the farm, and seldom appear abroad without a sun-bonnet, to shade their beauty from the scorching rays of the sun.

"Although neatness, at least English neatness, is not to be found in the habitations of the Canadian peasantry, perfect cleanliness is every where apparent, and, added to this comfortable quality, an unstinted sufficiency of the various articles of furniture required for a comfortable *ménage*. Beds in abundance, linen, and all the requisite culinary utensils, all that are really wanted are there. Again here, as in the circumstance of food, a high degree of comfort and enjoyment exists, and though the means may, to a delicate European, appear somewhat rude, the grand end of happiness is completely obtained.

"Few of the amusements of the people are peculiarly characteristic,

except those of the winter. I have already said that the winter is chiefly spent in pleasure, and that the greater part of the population, at that period, cease from serious labour. The chief pleasures of the inhabitants consist at this time of *carioling* and visiting each other. As the people live, for the most part, each on his own farm, the distance between neighbours becomes oftentimes too great for a pedestrian to go over with comfort; the snow lying on the ground for at least five months in the year, would also render walking unpleasant: a cariole, or light sleigh, is therefore universally used. Church-going, visiting, purchasing, in short every journey, whether of pleasure or business, is performed in the cariole. Every farmer possesses one, sometimes two or three; and the farm-horses, being exceedingly active and light, draw his winter carriage. The whole of this is evidence of great plenty and comfort;—the horses must be fed for many months, at no small cost, and might, if their masters desired, be profitably employed. The cessation from labour also, during the greater part of the period, is another proof of the easy circumstances of the people: not only is there a cessation from labour, but a constant round of parties, and dancing, of which the whole people are passionately fond. At these parties abundance of good things is always manifest. The people assemble not merely to see one another, but with a serious intention of enjoying themselves; and to this enjoyment they wisely deem eating to be an absolutely necessary adjunct. Healthy and robust as they are, it may easily be presumed, that the *quantity* of the viands is an essential particular. Their eating, like their dancing, is no mock proceeding; they dance with spirit, and they eat with vigour. Again, this is evidence of plenty.

"At their weddings the same custom is prevalent; a dance and a feasting always succeed this happy event; and not only one dance and one feasting but, most probably, a dozen. The whole bridal *cortège* in a long string of *calèches* if in summer, of *carioles* in winter, passing from house to house; and each night, for perhaps a fortnight, renewing, with unabated vigour, both the eating and the dancing *.

* Instances have, indeed, occurred of nuptial festivities having been thus protracted, but the practice is by no means universal.

"Thus passes the winter; and with the summer labour returns. The out-door sports of the English have no parallel in Canada; cricket, foot-ball, and the various gymnastic sports are there unknown; and the summer is almost entirely passed in labour. There is one exception, however, I am unwilling to pass over—this amusement has indeed immediate reference to gain, as it consists in *fishing*. The methods practised in the various parts of the country being somewhat peculiar, may perhaps be worth describing. In the spring the fish usually run up into the thousand small creeks (in England they would be called rivers) which fall into the St. Lawrence; these being oftentimes shallow, permit a man to wade across and along them; one carries a bundle of dry pine or cedar bark splinters lighted, and used as a torch, another follows with a barbed spear, having a handle eight or ten feet long, and, by the aid of the torch-light, he is enabled to see the fish as they lie along the bottom of the stream; which fish he cautiously approaches, and transfixes with his spear: when the water is too deep for him to wade, a canoe is procured; a light iron grate is placed in the bow, and filled with dry pitchy pine splinters, which blaze vehemently, and cast a bright and ruddy glow through the water to many yards distance. The fish, as before, are by this means discovered lying at the bottom of the stream, and are caught in the same manner. Great dexterity is often evinced in the management of the spear; and I have often seen fish of four or five feet in length caught in this manner. In the calm evenings of summer, as the night comes gradually on, canoe after canoe, with its bright and waving light, may be seen putting silently from shore, and gliding rapidly and noiselessly along the still and glossy river; with one touch of the paddle the canoe is impelled to the spot pointed out by the gestures of the spearsman, who, waiting till the fish be within his range, darts his weapon with admirable precision upon the devoted prey, lifts it as quietly as possible into the canoe, and proceeds onward in search of further sport. The water of the St. Lawrence, clear beyond that of almost all the rivers I have seen, is admirably fitted for this purpose; and will allow a dexterous sportsman to seize his prey, if it be tolerably large, even when the water is ten or twelve feet in depth. There are few scenes in Canada more peculiar and striking than this night fishing. Often have I stood

upon the banks of the broad, and beautiful St. Lawrence, and contemplated with rapture the almost fairy picture it afforded. The still and mighty expanse of waters, spread out in glassy calmness before me, with its edges fringed by a dark mass of huge forests sweeping to the very brink of the river; and the deep *purple* shade of night closing over all, have together conjured up a scene that has held me for hours in contemplation. The song of the *voyageur* floating over the smooth and silent water, and mellowed by distance, has, in my imagination, equalled the long-lost strains of the Venetian gondolier; the glancing multitudes of waving lights, belying the homely purpose to which they were applied, have seemed a nocturnal festival; and, by the aid of a little romance in my own feelings, have not seldom cheated me into half poetical musings. The 'garish eye of day,' luckily, invariably dispelled the hallucination by robbing the scene of its enchanting but temporary beauty. I would, however, recommend the traveller, in those distant regions, to view the scene in a calm night of June; and I doubt not but that in a short time he will discover himself more romantic than he deemed."

However highly coloured this burst of the romanesque may appear, there is, indeed, no fiction in it, and the beautiful portraiture it contains of the delightful scenery of the St. Lawrence would be equally applicable to the enchanting scenery of the magnificent Ottawa, and of other parts of the province, viewed under similar circumstances.

"From what I have already stated, it is almost needless for me to say, that the situation of the people, such as I have described it, is not merely the situation of a part but of the whole. Wealth and comfort are not confined to a few individuals, but the whole mass of the population have almost an equal share in the good things of this world. The division of property, by law, has, of itself, rendered this almost necessary; the ease with which the means of subsistence are obtained has also contributed to the same desirable state. Whatever may be believed to be the cause, the fact of the great approximation to equality in property is indisputable *."

* "Ce fut le partage égal des terres qui rendit Rome capable de sortir d'abord de son abaissement; et cela se sentit bien, quand elle fut corrompue."—MONTESQUIEU, *Grandeur et Décadence des Romains.*

"From the various circumstances I have mentioned, it will not be difficult to form something like a correct conception of the character of the people.

"Free from the pressure of want, and unexposed to the temptations created by surrounding affluence, they are free from the vices which poverty and temptation engender; property is perfectly safe, both from petty pilfering and open attacks. In the country, the doors of the houses are never fastened, and all sorts of property are openly and carelessly exposed. In the social relations also, the same circumstance of ease induces, to a great degree, honesty in dealing. It is to be remarked, however, that, in a country like England, where great transactions are daily carried on, great faith is often absolutely required; this faith becomes extended to less important dealings, and a general feeling of honesty is introduced into the intercourse of the people.

"In the kindlier affections, they, like all happy people, are eminently conspicuous; though, from being less rich, they are perhaps less remarkable in this particular than the people of the United States. Except in those portions overrun by the Irish and Scotch settlers, the traveller never meets with a refusal to give him assistance; and, in all parts, the distress of a neighbour is promptly and, I may say, generously relieved. No party feelings, no feelings of religion, no religious or political watch-words or signs, here break in upon the gentle tendencies of the people. The same intolerance of opposite sects is not to be found here as in Europe; I have myself known the most perfect cordiality to exist between the priest of the parish and his jewish neighbour; and have heard a sentimental deist openly avow his unbelief before the same clergyman, discuss the propriety of his opinion, and be on the most perfect terms of intimacy and good feeling. This tolerance has hitherto led to no evil results, the people being one of the most pious and decorous to be found on the face of the globe; their piety at the same time being free from austerity and bigotry, and their decorum from hypocrisy.

"A bold spirit of independence, moreover, reigns throughout the conduct of the whole population; happily they are yet undebased by the dominion of a rich oligarchy; they live not in fear of any man's power or influence; upon themselves only—on their own industry, do they

depend for subsistence; and thus they have not, hitherto, learned to make distinctions between the welfare of the poor and the rich; to bow down with abject servility before the powerful, and in their turn to exact a wretched prostration from those still weaker than themselves: courteous in their manners, polite in their address, they offend not by rude and rough familiarity, or indifference to the comfort of others; neither do they forget their own dignity, even though they be poor; they cringe not, they fawn not, nor are they, like slaves, cruel and oppressive; they preserve an even simplicity and honest straightforwardness of manner; alike free from servility on the one hand and bluntness on the other. In this circumstance again they differ widely from the people of the United States. The Americans, from a desire to mark their independence, their freedom from all the pernicious restraints of European despotisms, too often forget the common courtesies of life. To insult a man they sometimes consider an effective method of informing him that they are free from his control; just as by cheating him, they believe that they save themselves from being over-reached. The Canadian, on the contrary, while acting with independence, is polite; while guarding himself from becoming a dupe, is honest.

"It may be said, and perhaps with truth, that the Canadian population are, for the most part, superstitious; but this is a failing common to all uneducated persons; and we can hardly consider it a vice, unless it lead to cruel conduct towards one another. We, however, have no ducking of poor old women, no desire to burn witches, &c.; superstition, with us, merely multiplies the prayers of the fearful peasant, and occasions a somewhat lavish use of holy water and candles. It may, in England, be asked, how, in a catholic country, wherein a perfect freedom is allowed to the catholic priesthood to inculcate every doctrine which they are able to inculcate, a complete subjection of the people has not taken place, and a grovelling superstition and furious bigotry introduced? The answer is easy: the catholic religion is not a state religion; its priesthood are armed with no temporal power; they use only the influence of the understanding; are merely the advisers, not the rulers of their flocks. The existence of many religions, moreover, all equally under the protection of the law; the multiplication of doctrines consequent on this state of

things, and the mutual watchfulness over each other's conduct also resulting from it; all introduce a general toleration and mildness among the various priesthoods of the various religions. The catholic religion is, in Canada, no more the instrument of the people's degradation, than is the quaker religion in Pennsylvania: but change the situation of each, erect them into state religions, and both would be equally noxious. In the present situation of the nation, however, the catholic priesthood of Canada exhibit a spectacle that others would do well to imitate; they are laborious in their duties, frugal in their living, decorous in their manners; possessed of much intelligence, and some learning, they are gentle, modest, and benevolent.

"Crimes of the more atrocious description are almost unknown among us; murder, arson, as well as attacks generally on the person, are seldom heard of. The people are, for the most part, of a mild disposition; a broil or fight at their meetings of pleasure seldom occurs: and the more fierce and deadly passions of our nature are never roused by the pressure of famine. The habit of settling differences by personal collision does not exist among them: the law affords the only remedy which they willingly adopt; and they consequently seem, and are in fact litigious *. The petty mischiefs arising from this spirit, however, are more than compensated by the absence of all those dreadful scenes which are exhibited in countries where the law is a luxury only for the rich; and where the poor man, if he wishes redress for an injury or insult, must seek it by an attack upon the person of the offender. In France, since the revolution, the practice of duelling seems to have spread through the whole population. The military spirit generated by the wars attendant on that mighty regeneration, however, was never breathed into the French Canadians;

* "The Canadians being principally of Norman origin, what William the Conqueror said of the Normans may, perhaps, be applicable to them:—

'Foler et plaisir lors convient.'
Ils aiment à faire des folies et à plaider.

But it appears to me that the modern description of the Norman character is still more applicable to the Canadians:—'Il y a dans toute cette race Normande, un grand aplomb, une faculté de compréhension très-étendu, et ce qui est fort remarquable, à la fois beaucoup de chaleur dans la discussion des intérêts privés, et de calme dans celle des intérêts publics.'"

and the English practice of *boxing* has not, hitherto, become a favourite diversion. The comparative cheapness of law, moreover, gives an immediate outlet to the angry passions: the slow and deadly revenge of the Indian was therefore never adopted; and thus, in spite of being derived from the French, governed by the English, and living with the Indians, the people are free from the private pugnacity of all of them: this, added to the absence of want, accounts for the almost perfect absence of all the more dreadful crimes known in other lands.

"When speaking of the education of the people, I shall have to estimate the degree of knowledge possessed by them; I may here, nevertheless, allude to their intellectual character generally. To those persons who know the English character, who understand the spirit of *fun* which reigns throughout the whole land, the sedateness, and almost mock gravity of the American native must be a matter of surprise. The American has not a particle of *fun* in his whole composition; if he jokes, it is the saddest thing in nature; if he attempts to be witty, it is by the aid of Joe Miller: he labours in a vocation to which he is unaccustomed, and for which he is by no means fitted. There is something of this sort of discrepancy between the character of the French and the Canadians *. A more good-humoured people than the latter can hardly be found; but the sparkling vivacity, the vehemence of temper, the tiger-like passion, and brilliant fiery wit of a Frenchman are not to be found among them. They are sedate, nay almost grave; have their temper under control; and still, without the gay vivacity of the French, are free also from the fierceness of their passions. They are, by this means, a happier people, though, perhaps, less attractive. Though shrewd, perhaps I might say cunning, they exhibit not the same quickness of intellect which the French peasant is possessed of; they seize not with rapidity a new idea; have little *tact* in the management of men to their purposes, not perceiving the means of winning their way by the aid of other men's weaknesses, and moulding to their will the peculiar character and temper of each. Few nations possess this sort of power in the same extent as the Irish, and in this point

* "I speak here merely of the people: the educated classes of all nations of necessity approximate to each other. There is a greater difference between an English peasant and an English gentleman than between the latter and an educated Parisian."

the Irish and French assimilate; but the Canadian is as incapable in this particular as an Englishman or a Scotchman. It would be a curious point of investigation, to search after the circumstances which, in the cases both of English and French colonists, have led to these differences of character."

The people of the townships form a distinct class of themselves, and are strikingly contrasted with the French-Canadian peasantry of the province. The tenure of their lands, their language, and their habits, are essentially, their laws partially, different from those of the seigneurial population, and assimilate in many respects with those of the neighbouring settlements of the United States. The origin of this similitude may be traced to the early stages of the colonization of the eastern townships, when the settlers were almost exclusively, if not altogether, natives of the adjacent country, and emigrants from the New York, Vermont, and New England States. The numerous class of British and Irish emigrants that subsequently took up crown lands in the townships, strangers in general to the mode of clearing and cultivating new lands, were naturally prone to imitate those who had preceded them in these important operations, and the American settler, proverbially dexterous and active in removing forests with the axe, thus became the model of the European emigrant. This imitation was not long confined to the mode of converting a wilderness into corn fields, but soon extended to the plan of building their houses, dividing and tilling their farms, &c. The domestic economy of the establishment and the usages of the new settlers thus gradually approximated to those of the old, and although there are now some exceptions, the manners and customs of the people of the townships, generally, bear a close analogy to the manners and customs of the Americans *.

The composition of the township population is multifarious, and the inhabitants of each class might rank, according to their numbers, in the following order: first Americans, then Irish, Scotch, English, Dutch, and Germans. We have already taken an opportunity of speaking of the industry which characterizes the people of that part of the province,

* See ante, pp. 309—311.

and it may here be observed, that the description given in the preceding pages of the ease and comforts of the Canadian peasantry is not inapplicable to the townships, though, perhaps, to a more limited extent, from the comparative infancy of the settlements. Neither do the township inhabitants yield to the French Canadians in point of loyalty; all feel equally attached to their king, their government, and their institutions.

The different elements of the population being, as we have remarked, very numerous, the same unity of feeling, customs, and character can scarcely be expected to prevail to the same degree as in the French settlements; but it is gratifying, however, to observe that there exists in the townships but little, if any, of that party-spirit, religious or political, which links one set of men against another, and destroys the harmony of society, whilst it tends to paralyse the progress of new, and affect the prosperity of old settlements.

The population of the towns is distinguished by few peculiarities that are not common to the inhabitants of populous places. Here we find the same gradations of rank, the same assumptions on the one hand, and denials of superiority on the other, that are incident to similar communities. The circumstance of the two chief places of the province being garrison towns, serves also to give a certain complexion to society, which is peculiar to the *art militaire*, whilst it, at the same time, contributes to the outward gayety, at least, of the place. However remote from the vortex of the *haut ton* on this side the Atlantic, the higher circles are by no means strangers to the delicacies, etiquette, and refinements of European society; and by the agreeable union of French and English manners, that forms so peculiar a feature of the society in Canada, a degree of vivacity prevails, which holds a medium course between the austerity of English reserve and the ebullitions of French rhapsody.

During summer, an ephemeral, and oftentimes delightful, acquisition is made to the society of the cities of Quebec and Montreal by the arrival of American fashionables, attracted thither by the celebrity of Canadian scenery. The tour they perform generally embraces the Falls of Niagara, in Upper Canada, and the Falls of Montmorenci, near Quebec, whence they return through Montreal to the United States; such, at least, has hitherto been the course pursued in their travels, but it is probable

that the recent construction of a steam-packet, which has large and elegant accommodations for passengers, and is now plying regularly between Quebec and Halifax, will induce them to continue their route down the St. Lawrence, and through the Gulf, to the capital of Nova Scotia, whence they may return home without the necessity of retracing their steps, and thus give additional novelty and interest to their travels. It is possible in this way very agreeably to circumnavigate the best part of the North American continent, by ascending the Mississipi and the Illinois, which communicates by canal with Lake Erie, thence passing through the Welland Canal into Lake Ontario, and descending the St. Lawrence to Quebec, thence to Halifax, and lastly, coasting the continent, to New Orleans, at the mouth of the Mississipi again. By starting from New York, a similar, though less extensive, circumnavigation might be performed through the Hudson River, the Grand Canal, and down the St. Lawrence as in the former case.

SUPPLEMENT TO CHAPTER I.

Boundaries—Award of the King of the Netherlands.

In the Appendix will be found the award, at length, of his Majesty, the King of the Netherlands, as the umpire to whom the difficulties, arising under the 5th article of the Treaty of Ghent, were amicably referred by Great Britain and the United States: it is an important document, which, together with the protest of the American plenipotentiary, we have copied from the public press.

The question is considered by his Majesty, the King of the Netherlands, under three distinct heads: 1st. The high lands; 2nd. The Connecticut River; 3rd. The 45° parallel of north latitude. Upon the first point enough has been said in the first chapter, and subsequently in pp. 312 and 313, to render unnecessary any further remarks here *. The second point appears to have been judiciously determined, and comports with the hydrography of the country. Upon the third point we do not see the necessity of fresh astronomical observations to establish the geographical position of the 45° parallel of north latitude, the astronomers of both governments having agreed in 1818, in ascertaining, with every scientific precision, various points on that circle of latitude, which it remains merely to connect by field surveys to mark, in an ostensible manner, the whole length of the boundary. The singular reservation made, relative to Rouses' point, is too important not to command particular attention, and too gratuitous to be ever carried into effect; and the Americans, judging from the dismantled and ruinous condition of the fort, appear to have considered a secession of their dominion over

* It is proper to observe, that, when writing the remarks in pp. 312 and 313, we had not seen the document referred to in the Appendix, a circumstance which will explain a trifling discrepancy between the awarded boundary, as there stated, and that described in the award itself. It may be equally fit to disclaim, for my remarks upon this subject, any official weight or import that might be presumed to attach thereto, from the office I have the honour of holding under his majesty's government.

that Point, as unavoidable. The *reputed* coincidence of the existing, with the true line, could scarcely be deemed, in such grave matters, an adequate ground to justify the construction of a fort, which should afterwards furnish an argument in favour of the surrender, by the British government, of the spot whereon it stands, especially when due weight is attached to the importance of the position, which commands the navigation, the ingress to and egress from Lake Champlain. The fact, moreover, of the *reputed coincidence* is far from standing evident; but, on the contrary, doubts are well known to have always existed, as to the correctness of the actual line; and, in 1806, Dr. Williams reported to the local government of the state of Vermont, that the boundary was grossly inaccurate, and it is unnecessary now to inquire on which side the inaccuracy lay *. The vague argument, drawn from report, must, therefore, appear very weak and inconclusive; and it is not a little surprising that, notwithstanding such obvious and important advantages to the American interests, as result from this particular point, and others in the award, the United States' plenipotentiary should not have deemed himself authorised to acquiece in the decision of the umpire.

It must be a theme of extreme regret, that such points should still be at issue between both powers, and, from the nature of the case, we feel satisfied that the boundary question can only be settled by a conciliatory and friendly compromise, in which the mutual convenience and interests of both parties will be duly, fairly, and impartially considered. And should negotiations be hereafter opened between the governments, upon those amicable terms, we look upon the St. John's river, from the point of its intersection, by the due north line, to its source, as being an ultimatum, by which the relinquishment of the United States' claim, north of that stream, would be compensated by the sacrifice of British territory to the southward of it; it would be the legitimate *do ut des* of the civil law, at least as far as naked claims can be opposed to title and possession, and offer a means of adjusting a knotty point without interrupting the harmony and good understanding that prevail between both countries, and which it is so desirable happily to perpetuate.

* In pages 278 and 279 of my Topography of Lower Canada, 1815, will be found the further particulars of this fact.

APPENDIX.

I.

Report of the Commissioners under the 6th Article of the Treaty of Ghent.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Washington, July 3, 1822.

THE following is a copy of the report and decision of the commissioners of the United States and of Great Britain, appointed by virtue of the sixth article of the treaty of Ghent:

"The undersigned commissioners, appointed, sworn, and authorized, in virtue of the 6th article of the treaty of peace and amity between his Britannic Majesty and the United States of America, concluded at Ghent, on the 24th of December, 1814, impartially to examine, and by the report or declaration, under their hands and seals, to designate 'that portion of the boundary of the United States from the point where the 45° of north latitude strikes the river Iroquois or Cataragui, along the middle of said river into Lake Ontario, through the middle of said lake until it strikes the communication by water, between that lake and Lake Erie; thence along the middle of said communication into Lake Erie, through the middle of said lake, until it arrives at the water communication into Lake Huron; thence through the middle of said water communication into Lake Huron; thence through the middle of said lake to the water communication between that lake and Lake Superior;' and to 'decide to which of the two contracting parties the several islands lying within the said rivers, lakes, and water communications, do respectively belong, in conformity with the true intent of the treaty of 1783,' do decide and declare that the following described line, which is more clearly indicated in a series of maps accompanying this report, exhibiting correct surveys and delineations of all the rivers, lakes, water communications, and islands, embraced by the 6th article of the treaty of Ghent, by a black line, shaded on the British side with red, and on the American with blue; each sheet of which series of maps is identified by a certificate, subscribed by the commissioners, and by two principal surveyors employed by them, is the true boundary intended by the two before mentioned treaties, that is to say:

"Beginning at a stone monument erected by Andrew Ellicott, Esq. in the year 1817, on the south bank or shore of the said river Iroquois or Cataragui [now called the St. Lawrence], which monument bears south 74° 45′ west, and is eighteen hundred and forty yards distant from the stone church in the Indian village of St. Regis, and indicates the point at which the 45th parallel of north latitude strikes the said river; thence running north 35° 00′ 45″ west into the river, on a line at right angles with the southern shore, to a point one hundred yards south of the opposite island, called Cornwall Island; thence turning westernly, and passing around the southern and western sides of said island, keeping one hundred yards distant therefrom, and following the curvatures of its shores, to a point opposite to the north-west corner or angle of

said island; thence to and along the middle of the main river, until it approaches the eastern extremity of Barnhart's Island; thence northernly along the channel which divides the last mentioned island from the Canada shore, keeping one hundred yards distant from the island, until it approaches Sheik's Island; thence along the middle of the strait which divides Barnhart's and Sheik's Islands, to the channel called the Long Sault, which separates the two last mentioned islands from the Lower Long Sault Island; thence westernly, crossing the centre of the last mentioned channel, until it approaches within one hundred yards of the north shore of the Lower Sault Island; thence up the north branch of the river, keeping to the north of, and near, the Lower Sault Island, and also north of, and near, the Upper Sault, sometimes called Baxter's Island, and south of the two small islands, marked on the map * A and B, to the western extremity of the Upper Sault, or Baxter's Island; thence passing between the two islands called the Cats, to the middle of the river above; thence along the middle of the river, keeping to the north of the small islands marked C and D, and north also of Chrystler's Island, and of the small island next above it, marked E, until it approaches the north-east angle of Goose Neck Island; thence along the passage which divides the last mentioned island from the Canada shore, keeping one hundred yards from the island to the upper end of the same; thence south of, and near, the two small islands called the Nut Islands; thence north of, and near, the island marked F, and also of the island called Dry or Smuggler's Island; thence passing between the islands marked G and H, to the north of the island called Isle au Rapid Platt; thence along the north side of the last mentioned island, keeping one hundred yards from the shore to the upper end thereof; thence along the middle of the river, keeping to the south of, and near, the islands called Cousson, or Tussin, and Presque Isle; thence up the river, keeping north of, and near, the several Gallop Isles, numbered on the map, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10, and also of Tick, Tibbet's, and Chimney Islands, and south of, and near, the Gallop Isles, numbered 11, 12, and 13, and also of Duck, Drummond, and Sheep Islands; thence along the middle of the river, passing north of island No. 14, south of 15 and 16, north of 17, south of 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 28, and north of 26 and 27; thence along the middle of the river, north of Gull Island, and of the islands No. 29, 32, 33, 34, 35, Bluff Island, and No. 39, 44, and 45, and to the south of No. 30, 31, 36, Grenadier Island, and No. 37, 38, 40, 41, 42, 43, 46, 47, and 48, until it approaches the east end of Well's Island; thence to the north of Well's Island, and along the strait which divides it from Row's Island, keeping to the north of the small islands No. 51, 52, 54, 58, 59, and 61, and to the south of the small islands numbered and marked 49, 50, 53, 55, 57, 60, and X, until it approaches the north-east point of Grindstone Island; thence to the north of Grindstone Island, and keeping to the north also of the small islands No. 63, 65, 67, 68, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, and 78, and to the south of No. 62, 64, 66, 69, and 71, until it approaches the southern point of Hickory Island; thence passing to the south of Hickory Island, and of the two small islands lying near its southern extremity, numbered 79 and 80; thence to the south of Grand or Long Island, keeping near its southern shore, and passing the north Carlton Island, until it arrives opposite to the south-western point of said Grand Island in Lake Ontario; thence passing to the north of Grenadier, Fox, Stony, and the Gallop Islands in Lake Ontario, and to the south of, and near, the islands called the Ducks, to the middle of the said lake; thence, westernly, along the middle of said lake, to a point opposite

* Authenticated copies of the maps of this part of the boundary are deposites of record in the office of the secretary in Lower Canada, and it is believed in Upper Canada also.—AUTH.

the mouth of the Niagara river; thence to and up the middle of the said river to the Great Falls; thence up the falls, through the point of the Horse Shoe, keeping to the west of Tris or Goat Island, and of the group of small islands at its head, and following the bends of the river so as to enter the strait between Navy and Grand Islands; thence along the middle of said strait, to the head of Navy Island; thence to the west and south of, and near to, Grand and Beaver Islands, and to the west of Strawberry, Squaw, and Bird Islands, to Lake Erie; thence, southernly and westernly, along the middle of Lake Erie, in a direction to enter the passage immediately south of Middle Island, being one of the easternmost of the group of islands lying in the western part of said lake; thence along the said passage, proceeding to the north of Cunningham's Island, of the three Bass Islands, and of the Western Sister, and to the south of the islands called the Hen and Chickens, and of the Eastern and Middle Sisters; thence to the middle of the mouth of the Detroit river, in a direction to enter the channel which divides Bois-blanc and Sugar Islands; thence up the said channel to the west of Bois-blanc Island, and to the east of Sugar, Fox, and Stony Islands, until it approaches Fighting or Great Turkey Island; thence along the western side and near the shore of said last mentioned island, to the middle of the river above the same; thence along the middle of said river, keeping to the south-east of, and near Hog Island, and to the north-west of, and near the island called Isle à la Pêche, to Lake St. Clair; thence through the middle of said lake, in a direction to enter that mouth or channel of the river St. Clair, which is usually denominated the Old Ship Channel; thence along the middle of said channel, between Squirrel Island on the south-east, and Herson's Island on the north-west, to the upper end of the last mentioned island, which is nearly opposite to Point au Chênes, on the American shore; thence along the middle of the river St. Clair, keeping to the west of, and near the islands called Belle Rivière Isle and Isle aux Cerfs, to Lake Huron; thence through the middle of Lake Huron, in a direction to enter the strait or passage between Drummond's Island on the west, and the Little Manitou Island on the east; thence through the middle of the passage which divides the two last mentioned islands; thence turning northernly and westwardly, around the eastern and northern shores of Drummond's Island, and proceeding in a direction to enter the passage between the Island of St. Joseph's and the American shore, passing to the north of the intermediate islands, No. 61, 11, 10, 12, 9, 6, 4, and 2, and to the south of those numbered 15, 13, 5, and 1.

"Thence up the said last mentioned passage, keeping near to the island of St. Joseph's, and passing to the north and east of Isle à la Crosse, and of the small islands numbered 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20, and to the south and west of those numbered 21, 22, and 23, until it strikes a line, drawn on the map with black ink and shaded on one side of the point of intersection with blue and on the other side with red, passing across the river at the head of St. Joseph's Island, and at the foot of the Neebish Rapids, which line denotes the termination of the boundary directed to be run by the 6th article of the treaty of Ghent.

"And the said commissioners do further decide and declare, that all the islands lying in the rivers, lakes, and water-communications between the before described boundary line and the adjacent shores of Upper Canada do, and each of them does belong to his Britannic Majesty, and that all the islands lying in the rivers, lakes, and water-communications between the said boundary line and the adjacent shores of the United States, or their territories, do, and each of them does belong to the United States of America, in conformity with the true intent of the second article of the said treaty of Ghent.

"In faith whereof, we, the commissioners aforesaid, have signed this declaration, and thereunto affixed our seals.

"Done, in quadruplicate, at Utica, in the state of New York, in the United States of America, this eighteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two.

"PETER B. PORTER, [L. S.]
ANTH. BARCLAY, [L. S.]"

II.

General Information for the Guidance and Benefit of Persons desirous to emigrate to Upper Canada, affixed to the Canada Company's Prospectus.

The two principal, and indeed the only usual routes are by the River St. Lawrence and by New York, both of which may be considered as inaccessible during the winter months. The navigation of the River St. Lawrence is generally closed by the ice for five months in each year, and although the harbour of New York is very seldom so closed, yet the Hudson River and the Erie Canal, which form the communication from thence to Upper Canada, are closed as regularly as the St. Lawrence, but for a shorter period of time.

The usual and the best season, however, for emigrants to proceed by either route, is in the spring, or early in the summer, when there are particular facilities in finding a passage to the St. Lawrence, because many vessels go out in ballast, in order to return with cargoes of timber and other bulky articles, the produce of Canada.

These vessels are generally of large dimensions, and, being in ballast, have extensive accommodations for steerage passengers. A steerage passage to Quebec may cost from £3 to £4 each for adults, and half that sum for children; and, where many are associated together, passages are frequently procured at a lower rate; for which, however, the vessel provides only ship-room, fuel, and water; and the passengers must lay in their own provisions, which, on the frugal scale to which many of them must be accustomed ashore, may be done for a sum not exceeding the cost of the passage.

From Quebec to Montreal steam-boats ply daily during the summer, and the passage on deck is 1 to 1½ dollars, or 4*s*. 6*d*. to 6*s*. 9*d*. sterling. From Montreal to York, in Upper Canada, or to any place on the shore of Lake Ontario, through means of the arrangements already mentioned to have been made by the company, emigrants recommended to the agent in Montreal will be conveyed for five dollars, or 22*s*. 6*d*. sterling each, exclusive of provisions, which may cost from two to three dollars more; so that from the port of embarkation in the United Kingdom to the seat of government in Upper Canada, *the whole expense may be estimated at about ten pounds each for adults and six for children.*

No heavy or cumbrous baggage ought to be taken—household furniture, iron utensils, implements of husbandry,—in short, all articles of considerable bulk or weight will cost, in freight and carriage, more than the expense of replacing them in Upper Canada; besides the trouble

of their conveyance, the risk of damage, and the danger of articles carried from England or Ireland being found unsuited for use in America. The baggage of emigrants should consist only of their wearing apparel, with such bedding and utensils for cooking as may be required on the voyage; and any articles of clothing not intended to be used at sea ought to be packed in water-tight cases or trunks, not exceeding eighty or ninety pounds in weight.

The journey or inland voyage from New York to Lake Ontario, and especially to Lake Erie, is performed in less time than from Montreal, and emigrants recommended to the company's agent at New York will obtain passage-tickets at the same rate as from Montreal, being five dollars each; but the passage from the United Kingdom to New York is more costly than that to Quebec, besides that passengers are not permitted to land at New York until security be given, that, for a specified time, they shall not become burthensome on public charity; so that the route by the St. Lawrence, although more circuitous, and perhaps tedious, is certainly the most eligible for those emigrants who have large families, and who wish to proceed at the smallest possible expense.

The company's agents at the different ports of embarkation and elsewhere will furnish such further information as may be required by persons desirous to emigrate, and to deposit their funds with the company, or to become purchasers of the company's lands.

III.

Division of the Counties in the Province of Lower Canada.

Old County Division.	No. of new Counties in the old ones.	New County Division, by Act of the Provincial Parliament, March 1829.
Bedford .	2	Rouville and Missisqui
Buckingham .	6	Yamaska, Drummond, Nicolet, Lotbiniere, Sherbrooke, and Megantic
Cornwallis .	2	Kamouraska and Rimouski
Devon . .	1	Islet
Dorchester .	2	Beauce and Dorchester
Effingham .	1	Terrebonne
Gaspé .	2	Bonaventure and Gaspé
Hampshire .	1	Portneuf
Hertford . .	1	Bellechasse
Huntingdon .	3	Acadie, Beauharnois, and La Prairie
Kent . .	1	Chambly
Leinster . .	2	L'Assomption and La Chenay
Montreal .	1	Idem
Northumberland	2	Montmorency and Saguenay
Orleans . .	1	Idem
Quebec . .	1	Idem
Richelieu .	4	Richelieu, Saint Hyacinthe, Shefford and Stanstead
St. Maurice .	2	St. Maurice and Champlain
Surrey . .	1	Vercheres
Warwick .	1	Berthier
York . .	3	Two Mountains, Vaudreuil and Ottawa
Total	40	*new counties into which the 21 old counties are divided*

IV.

List of the Members of the Honourable the Legislative Council of the Province of Lower Canada, from the Commencement of the Constitution in 1792 *up to the Year* 1829 *.

Took their seat in the Years	Names
1792	Chief Justice Smith
——	J G. Chaussegros De Léry
——	Hugh Finlay.
——	Picotté De Bellestre
——	Thomas Dunn
——	Paul Roe de St Ours
——	Edward Harrison.
——	François Baby
——	John Collins.
——	Joseph De Longueuil.
——	Charles De Lanaudière
——	George Pownall
——	R A De Boucherville.
——	John Fraser
1793	Henry Caldwell
1795.	Right Reverend Jacob, Lord Bishop of Quebec.
——	Chief Justice Osgoode
——	Chief Justice Monk.
1797.	Sir John Johnson, Bart
——	Chartier De Lotbinière.
1799.	Gabriel Elzear Taschereau.
1803	Chief Justice Elmsley.
——	Mr. Justice Williams.
1807	Chief Justice Allcock.
1809.	* Chief Justice Sewell.
1810	* Charles De St. Ours
——	* John Hale.
——	Antoine Juchereau Duchesnay
1812	Aubert De Gaspé
——	* James Cuthbert.
——	* Herman Witsius Ryland
——	J. B. M. H. De Rouville
——	* John [illegible]dwell.
1814	John Blackwood
——	William de Gillivray.
1815.	* Pierre Dominique Debaltzch.
——	* Charles William Grant.

* Those marked * now compose the Council.

Took their seat in the Years	Names
1816.	John Richardson.
——	Louis De Salaberry
1818.	William Burns.
——	Reverend Joseph Octave Plessis, Roman Catholic Bishop of Quebec
——	Thomas J. P. Taschereau.
——	* Thomas Coffin.
——	William Scott.
——	Michael Henry Percival
——	Roderick M'Kenzie
——	Olivier Perrault.
——	* Louis Rene Chaussegros De Lery.
——	James Irvine.
——	Louis Turgeon
1819.	* Louis Gugy.
——	Charles de Salaberry.
1823.	* Matthew Bell.
——	* William Bowman Felton.
——	* James Kerr.
——	* Edward Bowen.
1827.	* Toussaint Pothier.
——	* John Stewart.
——	* John Forsyth.
1828.	* Jean Thomas Taschereau
——	* Right Reverend Charles James, Lord Bishop of Quebec.
1830.	* Saveuse de Beaujeu.
——	* Denis B Vigir.
——	* Samuel Hatt
——	* George Moffatt.
——	* Ls. Guy

V.

List of the Members of the House of Assembly, Province of Lower Canada, 1831.

FOURTEENTH SESSION OF THE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

1 Amiot, P.
2 Archambault.
3 Beaudet.
4 Bedard.
5 Blanchard
6 Blanchet, F
7 Boissonnault, N.
8 Bourdages, Ls
9 Bourdages, R. S.
10 Bourgia, Jos.
11 Brooks.
12 Bureau, P.
13 Caldwell, H.
14 Casgrain.
15 Carou, Ch.
16 Cazeau.
17 Christie, R.
18 Corneau.
19 Courteau.
20 Cuvillier, Jns.
21 Deligny, Jac.
22 Demers.
23 Deschamps.
24 Duval, F.
25 Dessaulles.
26 Dewit.

27 Dion.
28 Dorion, J.
29 Dumais, P.
30 Dumoulin, P. B.
31 Fisher.
32 Fortin, J. B.
33 Goodhue.
34 Gosset.
35 Henry, H.
36 Heriot, F. G.
37 Huot.
38 Jolliette.
39 Knowlton
40 Labrie, J.
41 Lafontaine.
42 Lagueux, E. C.
43 Lagueux, L.
44 Languedoc, F.
45 Larue, F.
46 Laterriere, M. P. S.
47 Lee, Th.
48 Lefebre, J. B.
49 Leroux, L
50 Leslie, J.
51 Letourneau, J C
52 Methot
53 Montenac, De.
54 Morin.
55 Mousseau, A
56 Neilson, J.
57 Nelson, R.
58 Nelson, W
59 Noel.
60 Ogden, C. R.
61 Oil.
62 Panet.
63 Papineau, A.
64 Papineau, L. I. (Speaker).
65 Peck.
66 Perrault, J.
67 Poirier, J.
68 Proulx, J. Bape.
69 Quisnel, F. A.
70 Rochon.
71 Raymond, J. M.
72 Robitaille.
73 St. Ours, de R.
74 Scott, L.
75 Stuart, A.
76 Taschereau, E.
77 Taschereau, C.
78 Taylor.
79 Thibodeau
80 Trudel
81 Turgeon.
82 Valois, J.
83 Wright
84 Young, Tho.—*Total.*

Table of Appropriations for Money made by the Legislature of Lower Canada, for Roads and other local objects, from 1814 *to* 1827, *both years inclusive.*

Years.	District of Quebec. Distribution.												District of Montreal. Distribution.									District of Three Rivers. Distribution.						District of Gaspe. Distribution.					St. Francis.	Total.
	Insane persons and foundlings.	Vaccination.	Ma kets.	Roads.	Courts of Justice	Prison	House of Correction.	Relief of distressed parishes and purchase of seed grain	Agricultural Society	Hospitals quarantines and emigrants	Education in the city	Encouragement of steam boats	Insane persons and foundlings	Vaccination	Road and Canals	House of Correction and Industry	Agricultural Society	Prison	Hospital	La Salle (the Construction of)	Education in the city	Vaccination	Roads.	Prisons	House of Correction	Agricultural Society	Court of Justice	Insane persons and foundlings	Prisons	Vaccination	Roads.	Agricultural Society.	For securing their lands to the inhabitants.	Prison.	
1814	900	...	.									..	358		...													1100		...	.		...	2,358 6
1815	1500	300	1500	4250	6700			...		.			1000	400	2550			.	. .			100	1800	.				500		100	†...	.	.	..	20,700 0
1816	1560	. .	...	..		1106	200	49216	.		.		1000			. .				.								500		50	1000	.			4,050 0
1817	1500	800	...	19650					...				1000	1000	24550	200		.				250	9800	8000	100		...	500	.	.	...	.			117,872 2
1818	1500	...	...	..	..	295	200	...	800	8500	. .		1000		500	200	800	1200	2000				.		100	400		500	...		.	.	2000		19,995 3
1819	1500		.		295		200	.					1000			420		2000					.	.	100	.	...	500	2100	50		100		. .	8,265 3
1820	.	. .	..	.					...				.	.	++														...	...				.	. .. .
1821	2300	500		150			200		200				1500	600	125000	200	800					150	.		100	400	3401	567						.	136,068 2
1822	1500		.	.			200		...	...			1500		++	200	.								100			300							3,800 0
1823	3635		.	261		600	200		806	3189	200		1500		62000	1300	200	. .	850				500	2343	100	400		450				100		...	78,629 17
1824	2000		...				200		...	600	200	*	1750			200	.		250						100		.	300				..	..	2000	7,620 0
1825	1900	...	.	1380			200	...		700	200	1500	1100		500	200		200	250	5000	200		1100		100			300						.	14,830 6
1826	2547	...	.	1500		1884	1025	.	505		650		116		2400	200	810		250		900				100	135		150	.		...	50		. .	14,370 7
1827	...	...			..	...	200								25000	200							281		100	.			1000		. .		...	.	26.781 14
	22283	1600	1500	27191	6995	3885	2825	49216	2305	12989	1250	1500	13571	2000	242500	3320	2710	3400	3600	5000	1100	500	3481	10343	1000	1375	3401	4567	4200	200	1000	250	2000	2000	455,320 10

* For encouraging the establishment of a Steam Boat to Halifax—this money has not yet been demanded.

† For Roads in the District of Gaspe—not expended.

‡ These sums, although charged to Montreal, being for Canals, are, strictly speaking, for the general benefit of the Province, rather than of any particular District.

§ The same remark applies to this sum, which is for the Welland Canal in Upper Canada.

N. B. In the distribution for each District, fractions of pounds are omitted, though they are included in the general total.

N. B. Since 1827 upwards of 100,000*l.* more were voted for internal improvements.

RECAPITULATION.

District of Quebec ...	. .	£133,541	11 2
Montreal .		277,501	2 10
Three Rivers ...		34,627	16 3
Gaspé ..		7,650	0 0
St. Francis. . .		2,000	0 0
Total...		£455,320	10 3

VII.

Number of Sessions in each Parliament and their Dura

PARLIAMENTS.	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Counties.	17th December, 1792. 9th May, 1793. 11th November, 1793. 31st May, 1794. 5th January, 1795. 7th May, 30th November, 1795. 7th May, 1796.	24th January, 1797. 2nd May, 20th February, 1798. 11th May, 28th March, 1799. 3rd June, 5th March, 1800. 9th May,	8th January, 1801. 8th April, 11th January, 1802. 5th April, 8th February, 1803. 18th April, 2nd to the 11th August, 10th February, 1804. 2nd May,	9th January, 1805. 25th March, 20th February, 1806. 19th April, 21st January, 1807. 16th April, 29th January, 1808. 14th April,	10th April, 1809. 15th May,	30th January, 1810. 26th February,
County of Gaspé	Ed. O'Hara	Ed. O'Hara	Wm. Vondenvelden	George Pyke	George Pyke	George Pyke
" Cornwallis	P. S. Panet Jean Digé	Pascal Tirois Alex. Menut	Joseph Boucher Alex. Menut	J. N. Perrault Alex. Roi	Jos. L. Borgia Jos. Robetaille	Jos. L. Borgia Jos. Robetaille
" Devon	Frs. Dambourges Jas. Tod	N. Dorion F. Bernier	Bernard Peltier, fils F. Bernier	J. B. Fortin F. Bernier	J. B. Fortin F. Bernier	J. B. Fortin F. Bernier
" Hertford	P. Marcoux Louis Dunière	P. Marcoux F. Tetû	Michel Tellier Louis Blais	Louis Turgeon C. F. Roy	Louis Turgeon C. F. Roy	F. Blanchet C. F. Roy
" *Dorchester*	*Gab. Elz.* Taschereau Louis de Salaberry	Charles Begin Alex. Dumas	John Caldwell Thos. Taschereau	John Caldwell Thos. Taschereau	John Caldwell Pierre Langlois	Thos. Tasche Pierre Langlo
" Buckinghamshire	A. Juc. Duchesnay J. M. Tonnancour Paine	John Craigie G. W. Allsopp	John Cragie Louis Gouin	Louis Proulx F. Legendre	J. B. Hebert Louis Legendre	J. B. Hebert F. Legendre
Borough of William Henry	John Barnes	Jonathan Sewell	Jonathan Sewell	Jonathan Sewell	Jonathan Sewell	Edward Bowe
County of Richelieu	Pierre Guerout Benj. Cherrier	Charles Millette Benj. Cherrier	Ls. E. Hubert C. B. Livernois	Louis Bourdages Louis Brodeur	Louis Bourdages Hy. M. Delorme	Louis Bourdage Hy. M. Delorm
" Bedford	J. B. M. H. de Rouville	Nath. Coffin	John Steele	W. S. Moore	W. S. Moore	John Jones
" Surrey	Philip de Rocheblave Fran. Malhiot	Philip de Rocheblave O. Durocher	Philip de Rocheblave F. Levesque	Noél de Rocheblave Jacques Cartier	Pascal Chagnon Jacques Cartier	Pierre Bedard Jos. Beaucham
" Kent	Réné Boileau Pierre Legras Pierreville	A. Menard Lafontaine J. Vigé	A. Menard Lafontaine Fran. Vigé	Pierre Wilbrenner Fran. Vigé	Joseph Planté L. J. Papineau, fils	P. D. Debart L. J. Papine
" Huntingdon	Hyp. St. George Dupré G. C. Lorimier	J. Perinault Jos. Perrault	J. B. Raimond J. F. Perrault	J. B. Raimond Sir A. M'Kenzie	Louis de Salaberry J. A. Panet	Stephen Sew J. A. Panet
" York	M. E. G. Ch. de Lotbinière P. G. de Bonne	Hubert Lacroix J. Hétier	Jos. Bedard L. C. Foucher	John Mure E. L. Dumont, fils	John Mure Jean Jos. Trestler	John Mure Pierre St. Julie
" Montreal	Jos. Papineau *James Walker*	J. M. Ducharme E. Guy	Jos. Papineau Thos. Walker	Benj. Frobisher L. Roi Portelance	J. B. Durocher L. Roi Portelance	J. B. Durocher L. Roi Portela
Westward of Montreal	James M'Gill J. B. Durocher	Joseph Papineau D. Viger	James M'Gill Joseph Perinault	Jas. M'Gill Louis Chabolliez	Wm. M'Gillivray D. B. Viger	Thos. M'Cord D. B. Viger
Eastward of Montreal	Joseph Frobisher John Richardson	A. Auldjo L. C. Foucher	P. L. Panet F. Badgely	*John Richardson* J. M. Mondelêt	*Jas. Stuart* J. M. Mondelêt	James Stuart Jos. Papineau
County of Effingham	Jacob Jordan Joseph La Croix	Jacob Jordan C. B. Bouc	André Nadon C. B. Bouc	André Nadon Thos. Porteous	Jos. Meunier Jos. Duclos	Jos. Meunier Jos. Duclos
" Leinster	Frs. Ant. Larocque Bonav. Panet	Joseph Viger Bonav. Panet	Jos. Beaumont J. Archambault	C. G. de Lanaudiere J. Archambault	Jos. E. Faribault Jos. Turgeon	Bon. Panet T. Taschereau
" Warwick	P. P. M. La Valtrie Louis Olivier	J. Cuthbert G. de Lanaudiere	J. Cuthbert Ross Cuthbert	J. Cuthbert Ross Cuthbert	J. Cuthbert Ross Cuthbert	J. Cuthbert Ross Cuthbert
Borough of Three Rivers	John Lees Nicolas S. Martin	John Lees P. A. de Bonne	John Lees P. A. de Bonne	John Lees Ls. Chs. Foucher	Jos. Badeaux Ezekiel Hart	Jos. Badeaux Matt. Bell
County of St. Maurice	Thomas Coffin Augustin Rivard	Thos. Coffin N. Montour	Thomas Coffin Matt. Bell	David Munro Michel Carron	Thos. Coffin Michel Carron	Louis Gugy Michel Carron
" Hampshire	Matthew M'Nider Jean Boudreau	Joseph Planté François Huot	Joseph Planté François Huot	Joseph Planté L. A. J. Duchesnay	F. Huot L. A. J. Duchesnay	F. Huot L. A. J. Duch
" *Quebec*	*Louis de Salaberry* David Lynd	John Black Louis Paquet	M. A. Berthelot Louis Paquet	M. A. Berthelot P. A. de Bonne	R. Gray P. A. de Bonne	*R. Gray* P. A. de Bonne
Upper Town Quebec	J. Ant. Panet William Grant	J. Ant. Panet William Grant	J. Ant. Panet A. J. Raby	J. Ant. Panet Wm. Grant	John Blackwood Claude Denechau	John Blackwo Claude Denech
Lower Town Quebec	Robert Lester John Young	A. J. Raby John Young	Robert Lester John Young	Ls. de Salaberry John Young	Pierre Bedard John Jones	Pierre Bedard John Jones
County of Northumberland	Pierre Bedard Joseph Dufour	Pierre Bedard James Fisher	Pierre Bedard J. M. Poulin	Pierre Bedard J. M. Poulin	Augustin Carron J. M. Poulin	Jos. Drapeau Thos. Lee
" Orleans	Nic. Gaspard Boisseau	Jerome Martineau	Jerome Martineau	Jerome Martineau	Jerome Martineau	Jerome Martin

the Commencement of the Constitution in 1792.

7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th
16th July, 1812. 1st August, 1812. 20th December, 1812. 15th February, 1813. 13th January, 1814. 17th March,	21st January, 1815. 25th March, 1815. 26th January, 1816. 26th February, 1816.	15th January, 1817. 22nd March, 1817. 7th January, 1818. 1st April, 1818. 12th January, 1819. 24th April, 1819.	11th to 24th April, 1820.	14th December, 1820. 17th March, 1821. 11th December, 1821. 18th February, 1822. 10th January, 1823. 22nd March, 1823. 25th November, 1823. 9th March, 1824.	8th January, 1825. 22nd March, 1825. 21st January, 1826. 29th March, 1826. 23rd January, 1827. 7th March, 1827.	20th to 22nd November, 1827. 21st November, 1828. 14th March, 1829.
Fyke	George Browne	Jas. Cockburn	No return	J. T. Taschereau	J. T. Taschereau	Robert Christie
orgia taille	Jos. L. Borgia Jos. Robetaille	Jos. L. Borgia Jos. Robetaille	J. B. Taché Jos. Robetaille	J. B. Taché Jos. Robetaille	J. L. Borgia Jos. Robetaille	J. L. Borgia Jos. Robetaille
rtin	Frs. Fournier J. F. C. Després	Frs. Fournier J. F. C. Després	Frs. Fournier J. Ba. Fortin	Frs. Fournier J. Ba. Fortin	J. C. Després J. Ba. Fortin	J. C. Letourneau J. Ba. Fortin
chet Roy	F. Blanchet C. F. Roy	Louis Turgeon C. F. Roy	F. Blanchet F. X. Paré	F. Blanchet F. X. Paré	F. Blanchet N. Boissonnault	F. Blanchet N. Boissonnault
dwell Langlois	J. T. Taschereau John Davidson	J. T. Taschereau John Davidson	Louis Lagueux John Davidson	Louis Lagueux John Davidson	Louis Lagueux John Davidson	Louis Lagueux Joseph Samson
bert ndre	Frs. Bellet James Stuart	Frs. Bellet Jos. Badeaux	Frs. Bellet Ls. Bourdages	J. B. Proulx Ls. Bourdages	J. B. Proulx Ls. Bourdages	J. R. Proulx Ls. Bourdages
Bowen	Robt. Jones	Robt. Jones	Robt. Jones	Robt. Jones	N. F. Uniacke	Wolfred Nelson
Bourdages Delorme	S. Cherrier F. Malhiot	S. Cherrier Jean Dessaulles	Frs. St. Onge Jean Dessaulles	Frs. St. Onge Jean Dessaulles	Roch de St. Ours Jean Dessaulles	Roch de St Ours Jean Dessaulles
Desbiens	Henry Georgen	Thos. M'Cord	*Jos. Franchere*	John Jones, jun.	J. R. R. H. de Rouville	J. R. R. H. de Rouville
Bedard ard	Pierre Amiot Etienne Duchesnois	Pierre Amiot Etienne Duchesnois	Pierre Amiot Etienne Duchesnois	Pierre Amiot Etienne Duchesnois	Pierre Amiot Aimé Massue	Pierre Amiot François Malhiot
Debartzch Papineau, fils	*Jos. Bresse* Noël Breux	D. B. Viger Pierre Bruneau, sen.	D. B. Viger Pierre Bruneau, sen.	D. B. Viger F. A. Quesnel	D. B. Viger F. A. Quesnel	D. B. Viger F. A. Quesnel
ury et	Austin Cuvillier Michael O'Sullivan	Austin Cuvillier Michael O'Sullivan	Austin Cuvillier Michael O'Sullivan	Austin Cuvillier Michael O'Sullivan	Austin Cuvillier J. M. Raymond	Austin Cuvillier J. M. Raymond
Bellet St. Julien	E. N. L. Dumont Wm. Forbes	E. N. L. Dumont J. B. Ferré	E. N. L. Dumont Aug. Perrault	E. N. L. Dumont Aug. Perrault	E. N. L. Dumont John Simpson	Jacques Labrie J. B. Lefebvre
Berocher Portelance	Jas. Stuart *Augn. Richer*	Jas. Stuart Augn. Richer	Jos. Perrault Jos. Valois	Jos. Perrault Jos. Valois	Jos. Perrault Jos. Valois	Jos. Perrault Jos. Valois
St. Dezier M'Leod	L. J. Papineau James Fraser	L. J. Papineau F. Souligny	L. J. Papineau Geo. Garden	L. J. Papineau Geo. Garden	L. J. Papineau P. de Rocheblave	L. J. Papineau Robert Nelson
Sewell deau	Saveuse de Beaujeu George Platt	Louis Roi Portelance John Molson	Hugues Heney Thos. Busby	Hugues Heney Thos. Thain	Hugues Heney James Leslie	Hugues Heney James Leslie
Meunier Boeuf	Samuel Sherwood J. Malbœuf	Samuel Sherwood J. Malbœuf	Jacob Oldham Frs. Tassé	Jacob Oldham Frs. Tassé	Casimir de Montigny Jos. Ovide Turgeon	Augustin Papineau Jos. Ovide Turgeon
Archambault Viger	Jacques Lacombe D. B. Viger	Jacques Lacombe Benjn. Beaupré	*Jacques Lacombe* Barth. Joliette	Jacques Lacombe Michl. Prevost	Charles Courteau Jean Marie Rochon	L. Leroux J. Poirier
thbert Olivier	Jacques Deligny Ross Cuthbert	Jacques Deligny J. D. Bondy	Alexis Mousseau Ross Cuthbert	Alexis Mousseau Jacq. Deligny	L. M. R. Barbier Jacq. Deligny	Alexis Mousseau Jacq. Deligny
Coffin Hall	C. R. Ogden Amable Berthelot	C. R. Ogden Pierre Vezina	C. R. Ogden J. T. de Tonnancour	C. R. Ogden Jos. Badeaux	Amab. Berthelot Etienne Ranvoyzé	C. R. Ogden Dumoulin
Caron Carron	Etienne Leblanc P. R. Vallieres de St. Real	Etienne Mayrand Ls. Gugy	Ls. Picotte *Pierre Bureau*	Ls. Picotte Pierre Bureau	Chas. Caron Pierre Bureau	Chas. Caron Pierre Bureau
Larue auvreau	F. Huot G. W. Allsopp	F. Huot G. W. Allsopp	F. Huot Chs. Langerin	F. Huot Chs. Langerin	Frans. Drolet John Cannon	F. X. Larue John Cannon
Bedard Irvine	Louis Gauvreau Peter Brehaut	*Louis Gauvreau* Peter Brehaut	Louis Gauvreau John Neilson	Louis Gauvreau John Neilson	Michl. Clouet John Neilson	Michl. Clouet John Neilson
Denechau	J. A. Panet Claude Denechau	Geo. Vanfelson Claude Denechau	Vallieres de St. Real Claude Denechau	Vallieres de St. Real Andw. Stuart	Vallieres de St. Real Andw. Stuart	Vallieres de St. Réal Andw. Stuart
Bruneau	Andw. Stuart Pierre Bruneau	Andw. Stuart Frs. Languedoc	Peter Burnet Thos. Lee	Jean Belanger James M'Callam	Jean Belanger Thos. A. Young	Thos. Lee Thos. A. Young
Lee Blouin	E. C. Lagueux Thos. Lee	C. L. Lagueux Philippe Panet	E. C. Lagueux Philippe Panet	E. C. Lagueux Philippe Panet	M.P.deSalesLaterrière John Fraser	M.P.deSalesLaterrière E. C. Lagueux
	Chs. Blouin	Chs. Blouin	Frs. Quirouet	Frs. Quirouet	Frs. Quirouet	Frs. Quirouet

VIII.

Copy of Instructions transmitted from His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief the Earl of Dalhousie, to Lieut.-Col. Bouchette, in consequence of which he visited the old and new settlements of the province, and was enabled to collect authentic materials which greatly assisted him in the compilation of his Topographical and Statistical Work on Lower Canada.

Castle of St. Lewis, Quebec, 9th August, 1827.

Sir,

His Excellency the Governor in Chief having been called upon by his Majesty's government to furnish certain statistical information respecting this province, and having no means of procuring it except by employing a person to traverse the province for the express purpose of obtaining it, I am commanded by him to acquaint you, that relying on your local knowledge, intelligence, and activity, he has determined upon sending you on a tour, as well for the purpose of collecting materials to fill up the returns required to be transmitted to England, as to ascertain the general state of the new settlements in the townships of the province upon the plan adopted by you in 1824, when employed on a similar service.

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a blank form of each of the returns called for by his majesty's government; number one relating to the agriculture of the province, and number two to its manufactures, mines, and fisheries.

It will be manifest to you, on an inspection of these forms, that it will be quite impossible this year, or for a long time to come, to obtain accurate information on all the points which they embrace; but his excellency trusts that, without attempting to fill up each column as its heading requires, you will be able to give a general idea, in the return of *agriculture*, of the *average*, nature, and description of crops raised in each district, the average quantity of stock, the ordinary quantity of produce from each description of crop, and particularly wheat, and the average price of wheat (and of such other description of corn as can be ascertained) in different sections or districts of the country; or in counties or seigniories, if you shall find that mode of division more convenient; and it may, perhaps, be in your power to approximate, more or less, to a result as to the quantity of cultivated and uncultivated land in such different sections or divisions of the province, and the proportions in which the different seigniories are conceded or remain unconceded. In like manner, with respect to the return of manufactures, it cannot be expected that you should do more than obtain very general, and to a great degree vague, results, as to the manufactories and mills of the province and its mines and quarries; but, in passing through the different seigniories and townships which you may be able to reach, or by addressing circulars to intelligent persons in the remoter and more inaccessible parts, the general description, situation, and number of such manufactories may be sufficiently ascertained. The column relating to the working of minerals and the quantity produced will probably be found wholly inapplicable in every part of the province; and those relating to shipping and fisheries will remain to be filled up, if possible, by information obtained from other departments or sources. If, however, you should find that any shore fisheries are carried on to any considerable extent on the St. Lawrence, between St. Thomas and Mitis, or on the opposite north shore, any general information that you can procure may be inserted in the return.

With respect to the other objects of your tour, they may be confined to the following points:

You will endeavour to go through such of the townships now under agency, or which have been located or granted within the last seven years for actual settlement, as you were not able to reach in 1824; and ascertain, in a general way, the progress that has been made in the various points of actual settlement, specified as the conditions of the grants or locations; and you will adopt the same measures as you did in 1824, to ascertain and clear up any difficulties that may exist as to disputed locations, or claims by possession in such townships.

With respect to the other townships under agency already visited by you in 1824, it will only be necessary for you to ascertain the additions made to their population and cultivation since that period; and to inquire into and report upon, or if possible adjust on the spot, any new cases of disputed claims or locations that may have occurred since then.

* * * * * * * * * *

In passing through the townships, or other places in which considerable new settlements have been formed and a population collected, you will please to inquire and report what measures you may consider proper to be adopted on the part of government for giving the inhabitants the means of obtaining a due execution of the laws, as far as practicable, by the appointment of justices of the peace and officers of militia: and it would be advisable that you should note the names of such persons in those townships or settlements as you may think qualified to act in those capacities.

I have only to add, that as the statistical return which his excellency is to send to his majesty's government is not to be made up until after the 1st January, 1828, it will not be necessary for you to do more on your journey than to collect materials and information to be arranged after your return to Quebec.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

Joseph Bouchette, Esq. A. W. COCHRAN, Secretary.

Surveyor-General.

The manner in which the above service was performed is explained in the note at the foot of p. xv. of the Preface.

Extract of a printed Report from Lieutenant-Colonel Cockburn, to the Right Honourable R. W. Horton, dated 17th September, 1827.

"On the 17th (July) I returned to Quebec, and immediately put myself in communication with Mr. Bouchette, the surveyor-general of Lower Canada, respecting the vacant lands throughout the province, but more particularly concerning those which had been referred to by His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief. The reports, plans, and other explanatory documents furnished by Mr. Bouchette are so clear and comprehensive, that a reference to them will at any time afford the fullest information; and I beg here to express my acknowledgments to Mr. Bouchette, for the pains and trouble he took to supply me, not only with all I required, but with every thing he thought might in any way prove of service; as also to offer my testimony to the extensive information, excellent arrangements, and ready assistance at all times to be met with in his office.—Having thus, as I hoped, obtained information on all the various points alluded to in my instructions, I embarked at Quebec on the 26th July, and landed in England on the 11th September."

Appendix G, No. 2, page 88.

IX.

Brief and interesting Account of Public Events in Canada, from the Discovery of America to the present Day.—Compiled by Robert Armour, Esq.

1492.—Christivallo Colon, or Christopher Columbus, a Genoese, under the patronage of Isabella of Spain, set sail from Palos, with three vessels and 90 men, on the 3d August. On the 11th October discovered St. Salvador, one of the Bahama Islands.

1497.—John and Sebastian Cabota, Italians in the service of Henry VII. of England, discovered Newfoundland and coasted along the continent to 67° 50′ N. latitude. They entered and explored some part of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, but did not take formal possession

1506.—Jean Denys, of Harfleur, drew a map of the Gulf and adjacent coast.

1508.—Thomas Aubert made a voyage from Dieppe to Newfoundland and sailed up the St. Lawrence

1517.—The banks of Newfoundland are visited by at least 50 Spanish, Portuguese, French and other European ships.

1522.—Verazani, an Italian, in the service of Francis I. of France, discovered a great portion of the American continent, took formal possession in the name of his sovereign, and gave it the name of *Nouvelle France.*

1535.—Jacques Cartier, of St. Malo, discovered the river of Canada, now St. Lawrence. He sailed up the river for 300 leagues, formed alliances with the natives, took possession of the territory, built a fort, and wintered in the country. He visited Hochelaga, which he named *Mont Royal.* He returned to France in 1536 with Donnaconna, a chief of the natives, and was coolly received, as he brought no gold nor silver.

1540.—François de la Roque, Lord of Roberval, Viceroy of Canada, sent out Cartier to Canada with five ships and individuals to commence the colonization of some portion of the banks of the St. Lawrence. Cartier returned to France in the fall and died in 1543, broken-hearted.

1542.—Roberval came himself this year to Canada, built a fort, and wintered 4 leagues above the Isle of Orleans.

1549.—Roberval, his brothers, and a long train of adventurers, sailed from France for Canada, but were never heard of. This so discouraged the French government and people that 50 years elapsed without any measures being taken to settle Canada.

1581.—The trade with Canada began to be renewed, which had been interrupted by Cartier's conduct to the natives in 1535.

1583.—Three ships, one of which averaged 150 tons, were employed in the Canada trade.

1591.—The walrus common in the Gulf of St. Lawrence: a fleet of ships fitted out from St. Malo for Canada to engage in the killing of those animals, whose teeth sold dearer than ivory.

1598.—Marquis de la Roche was appointed by Henry IV. Viceroy of Canada. His commission authorized him to grant lands, *en fief et seigneurie*, as rewards for military service. He landed his settlers on Sable Island and proceeded on his voyage of discovery, but was unable to return and withdraw the individuals he had there left. Of these, 12 only survived when visited in 1605. La Roche died shortly afterwards of vexation and remorse.

1600.—The patent of the marquis was renewed in favour of M. de Chauvin, who visited Tadoussac and returned with a valuable cargo of furs. The next year he visited Three Rivers.

1603.—Pierre de Monts succeeded Chauvin on his death and received a patent of the territory included between 40° and 46°, whereby he was constituted lieutenant-general, with power to colonise and convert the natives to Christianity. Samuel de Champlain and M. de Chatte, Governor of Dieppe, were his principal associates. Champlain visited Tadoussac this year, De Monts devoting his attention to Nova Scotia.

1607.—The patent enjoyed by De Monts revoked and then renewed on condition of forming settlements. The patentees found it, however, more advantageous to carry on trade with the Indians, and in consequence the Acadian colony was neglected and the contemplated Canadian one delayed.

1608.—Champlain persevered in his efforts to found a settlement, and succeeded this year in commencing the city of Quebec

1611.—Champlain visited France, having already been engaged in two successful expeditions against the Indians, and was there detained in great suspense as to his future situation or relation to the colony.

1613.—Champlain returned to Quebec under the patronage of the Prince de Condé, and visited the Ottawa.

1614.—The affairs of Canada were transferred to a company of merchants in Rouen, St. Malo and Rochelle, who had induced Champlain to consent to their participation in the supposed advantages of the Canada trade.

1615.—Champlain entered into an expedition against the Indians, and was detained a winter among them.

1620.—The Prince de Condé transferred his commission to the Marshal de Montmorenci.

1621.—The Iroquois began their system of extermination, and carried on the most sanguinary and destructive warfare in the history of the world. A mission was sent to France to represent the defenceless state of the colony. The patent was transferred to William and Emeric de Caen.

1622.—The population of Quebec, though established 14 years, amounted to only 50 souls.

1623.—This and the three succeeding years were consumed in preventing alliances among the Indians—the proselytizing of some tribes by the Jesuits—and the transferring of the viceroyalty of Canada from the Marshal de Montmorenci to his nephew the Duke de Ventadour.

1627.—At the instance of Champlain, the patent enjoyed by De Caen, who devoted himself solely to the fur-trade and personal advantage, was revoked, and the colony placed in the hands of a company of 100 associates, organized under the direction of the celebrated Cardinal Richelieu.

1628.—War being then existent between England and France, Charles I. of England granted authority to David Kirk and his kinsmen to conquer the French dominions in America. Kirk appeared before Quebec, after having captured the fleet destined for that place, and ordered it to surrender. Not having the means to enforce a surrender, he retired.

1629.—Louis and Thomas Kirk, brothers of David, appeared before Quebec, the inhabitants of which having been again deprived, by the capture of another fleet for Quebec by Kirk, of their supplies, and threatened with an invasion from the Indians and starvation within the garrison, gladly surrendered to the British arms, 130 years before the memorable conquest by Wolfe.—The capitulation was so honourably fulfilled that the majority of the inhabitants preferred remaining with the captors. Champlain and most of the Jesuits returned under free passes to France.

1632.—Charles I., by the treaty of St Germain-en-laye, resigned to Louis XIII. of France all his title to Canada and Nova Scotia, then so little valuable as an appendage to the English crown. From this year is dated the commencement of a train of events which led to the loss of Canada to the French government, and of the American colonies to Great Britain. Champlain returned to Quebec as viceroy with extension of his powers and a large accession of settlers.

1635.—A college founded at Quebec by Rene Rohault, a Jesuit. Champlain died this year universally regretted, celebrated alike as a historian, traveller, author, mathematician, or seaman. He was succeeded by M. Montmagny.

1639.—The Ursuline Convent at Quebec founded by Madame de la Peltrie. The Hôtel Dieu at Sillery founded the preceding year.

1642.—The Island of Montreal, vested in Mr. Maisonneuve and 34 associates in 1640, and of which he was declared governor in 1641, was this year taken possession of by him and several families, with many religious ceremonies

1644.—The island was transferred to the religious order of St. Sulpice in Paris.

1647.—Mr. Montmagny, under whose government the colony advanced languidly, was recalled and succeeded by Mr D'Aillebout. The latter proposed to the English colonies an alliance against the Indians, which was by them rejected, as it required them to make enemies of their allies the Mohawks

1648.—The colonies of New England proposed to the governor and council of Canada perpetual peace between the colonists, even when the parent states were at war. This proposal was unattended with success.

1649.—The Huron village of St. Ignatius, of 400 persons, was attacked by 1000 Iroquois and the inhabitants massacred.

1654.—The Iroquois this year exterminated the Erie Indians.

1658.—D'Aillebout was succeeded by Mr. Lauzon, in 1650 by the Marquis D'Argenson, and this year by the Baron D'Avengour, all of whom were severally censured for the unfavourable report of the state of the colony which they transmitted to the company.

1660.—Francis de Laval, Abbot of Monsigny, was appointed Bishop of Canada, came over and brought with him a body of clergy for the settlement.

1663.—The Baron D'Avengour had sufficient influence with the King of France to have his report relative to the state of Canada attended to. His majesty in consequence determined upon resuming his rights and erecting Canada into a royal government. The 100 associates, tired of maintaining the country at a great expense, had retired from the fur-trade, and now reduced to 45 members, willingly made a total resignation of their rights to the sovereign, who thereupon appointed Monsieur de Mesy the first Royal Governor of New France. A dreadful earthquake is mentioned by the Jesuit historians to have occurred in February of this year throughout all Canada, particularly below Quebec, but we are unaware whether geological

evidence or traditionary lore will bear out the reverend writers in their statements. During the course of the year Mr. de Mesy arrived at Quebec and put in execution a royal edict, which nominated a sovereign council for the government of Canada. This council consisted of seven members, of which were the governor, the bishop, and the intendant. The powers conferred on this body extended to the cognizance of all causes civil and criminal, to judge definitively according to the laws and ordinances of France, and the practice of the Parliament of Paris To this were added other powers of such a nature as to render the institution of the council an era in the history of Canada.

1664.—Canada was transferred to the West India Company, who by Louis the Fourteenth were put in possession of all the territory then owned abroad by the French king. The grant did not give much satisfaction to the inhabitants of Canada, who made complaints to the company.

1665.—Mr. de Mesy was succeeded by Mr. de Courcelles.

1666.—Mr de Tracy, the governor-general of the territories of the West India Company, visited Canada, built three forts on the Chambly river, and made a successful incursion into the territory of the Mohawks. This year the complaints of the colonists against the monopoly enjoyed by the company were appeased by an edict, granting to the inhabitants the trade in furs, subject to the payment of one-fourth of all beaver. This did not however prevent a very extensive smuggling-trade.

1667.—The West India Company were confirmed this year by the governor-general in all the rights and privileges formerly held by the company of one hundred associates.

1668.—Mr. de Talon, to encourage colonization, induced the French government to disband within the country the Carignan regiment, and to ship from France about 300 women of loose character, who were, in less than 15 days, disposed of among the inhabitants, to whom, on marriage, considerable presents were made. Pensions were also granted to all individuals who had ten children lawfully begotten.

1671.—The see of Quebec was this year established, dependent on the see of Rome Concessions of land were also reduced to one-half of their original extent

1672.—M. de Courcelles built a fort near the modern Kingston for the purpose of bridling the Iroquois, pretending it to be only a place of trade. This gentleman was this year superseded by the Count Frontenac.

1673.—The count completed the fort on Lake Ontario, which hereafter was known by his name. The River Missisippi was this year explored by orders of the government of Canada.

1674.—The charter of the West India Company was revoked by an edict of the French king.

1675.—The sovereign council was this year increased to 9 members and its powers extended.

1679.—An edict in council prohibited the imprisonment of any French subject except by order of the governor-general or sovereign council.

1682.—The Count Frontenac was recalled and Mr. de la Barre appointed governor, with instructions to cultivate an intercourse with the French West Indies.

1684.—Mr. de la Barre made an unsuccessful inroad into the territories of the Five Nations, with the natives of whom he entered into a treaty, and De la Barre with his whole army returned to Montreal.

1685.—The population of Canada amounted to 10,000, of which 3000 were capable of bearing arms.

1687.—The dangerous rivalship which had arisen between the inhabitants of the British and French colonies, by the erection of numerous forts by the latter, and cherishing the hostility of the Five Nations to the French by the former, received the interference of James II. of England.

1688.—The Five Nations, excited by the Rat, one of their powerful leaders, attacked the French settlement at Montreal, killing 1000 of its inhabitants and committing horrid cruelties.

1690.—The Count Frontenac, who had returned from France last year with forces to carry the war into the English provinces, was unable to effect his purpose till this year, when he attacked Schenectady and massacred its inhabitants. The alarm which this last affair had on the minds of the inhabitants of the British colonies induced them to enter into co-operative measures and decide upon an expedition to Canada. Sir W. Phipps, who was sent from Boston for that purpose, did not arrive before Quebec till Count Frontenac had sufficiently prepared for defence, and his order to surrender was soon followed by his own departure from the St. Lawrence.

1693.—Frontenac entered the territory of the Iroquois and commenced a warfare which continued for several years, and so weakened that nation that they were never afterwards able to make any impression upon Canada.

1698.—The Count Frontenac died at Quebec and was succeeded by Mr. de Callières, who succeeded in effecting peace with the Five Nations, as a power independent of Great Britain.

1702.—War was again renewed between Britain and France, and Mr. de Calbères represented to his court the necessity of reinforcements, and made preparations for the defence of the colony.

1703.—Mr. de Callières died and was succeeded by the Marquis de Vaudreuil, who devoted his attention to destroy the influence which the English possessed over their Indian allies

1704.—The Bishop of Quebec, returning from France, was taken by an English frigate and kept prisoner in England to effect a release of French protestants. The negotiation was unsuccessful.

1705.—Mr. Reaudot, the intendant, introduced some improvement in the laws of the country, which had a tendency to repress the litigious spirit which prevailed within the province.

1708.—An attempt of the clergy to raise their tithe from a twenty-sixth to a thirteenth was foiled, as being too burdensome to a colony so limited in its resources.

1709.—The English colonists, incensed by the massacre of the inhabitants of Haverhill, again determined upon attacking Quebec by sea and land, and the New Englanders were only restrained from proceeding on learning that the forces intended for Canada had been required for service in Portugal.

1711.—The operations by sea which this year took place in pursuance of the original intention were unsuccessful from the inadequacy of the means, and the fleet was so damaged by tempestuous weather that the expedition was abandoned.

1713.—The treaty of Utrecht left the French in peaceable possession of Canada, and of extensive means of annoyance to the peace and commerce of the New England colonies.

1718.—This year was remarkable for the discovery in the forests of Canada of the plant ginseng, so highly valued by the Chinese.

1720.—The inhabitants of Quebec and Montreal paid taxes for improvements in the fortifications of their cities, then commenced under Mr. de Lery.

1722.—A definitive regulation of the distribution and limits of parishes took place and finally promulgated within the province.

1723.—Nineteen vessels cleared from Quebec—their cargoes limited to peltries, lumber and provisions.

1725.—The Marquis de Vaudreuil closed his long and meritorious career, who was succeeded the following year by Mr. de Beauharnois, a natural son of Louis XIV.

1731.—The administration of Mr. de Beauharnois was marked by the continual erection of new forts and displays of military force, for the purpose of keeping the English traders within proper limits. His recommendation to the French government to erect a line of military establishments were successful, and this year the important and well-situated fort at Crown Point was erected.

1743.—During the long peace which followed the treaty of Utrecht in 1713, several measures had been put in execution with a tendency to promote the welfare and prosperity of the country. The conduct of the nuns, so contrary to the vows they had undertaken, was repressed; several ecclesiastical decretals bearing heavily upon some portions of the people were repealed, and this year a royal edict issued, which prohibited the Jesuits and other ecclesiastics from acquiring mortmain acquisitions.

1744.—An important change was made in the law of Canada, by which only such of the laws of France as should be enregistered in the books of the superior council, by his majesty's direction, should have force in the colony. By this circumstance the French *Code Marchand* never was in force in Canada.

1745.—His majesty directed that no houses should be erected but on farms of one acre and a half in front by 40 in depth. The consequence has been that the population of Canada has been always kept confined and thickly settled, and the pernicious law of subdivision of property has had a tendency to weaken instead of strengthen families. Cape Breton was this year taken by Great Britain.

1747.—The Count de la Galissonnière who had succeeded the Marquis de Beauharnois, having in vain sought assistance from the mother country, employed engineers to mark out and settle a line of demarcation, to restrict the English within the Alleghany mountains. He also succeeded in establishing forts beyond the limits of Nova Scotia. He was however superseded by Mr. de Jonquières.

1748.—The negotiations were finally terminated for a line of demarcation between the British and French territories in America in consequence of a clause of the treaty of peace of Aix-la-Chapelle.

1749.—Forts were erected in the Bay of Fundy by the Governor of Nova Scotia to counteract the views of the Governor of Canada, who endeavoured to seduce the Indians and Acadians from their allegiance to the British crown. A private expedition sent out by the governor and officers of the government for the purpose of exploring a route to the Pacific Ocean terminated, as it was really intended, in a rich return of furs, of which the governor's share amounted to £12,000.

1750.—Mr. Bigot, the intendant of Canada, displayed this year much of that licence and prodigality for which he became notorious, and resorted to the most profligate means for the support of his expenses, which were lavished upon a female favourite.

1752.—Mr. de Jonquières was succeeded in the administration of the government by the Baron de Longueuil. His appointment was but temporary, for the Marquis de Quesne arrived in August as governor-general, and prepared for active warfare against the English traders on the Ohio, and offensive hostilities soon commenced. The conduct of the intendant, who had entered into a conspiracy to defraud the government, was calculated to destroy the resources of the government and alienate the affections of the people, and probably by creating internal weakness and disunion effected as much of the conquest of Canada in 1759 as the valour of the invaders.

1755.—No offensive operations took place between England and France, except a small naval engagement on the banks of Newfoundland, till this year, when an expedition of regulars and colonial militia under General Braddock, for the purpose of giving a decided check to the encroachments of the French government on the Ohio, was defeated through his disregard of all precautionary measures. The troops which were brought off by the celebrated General Washington joined the provincial troops under Governor Shirley and General W. Johnson. The latter was attacked near Lake George by a large army under Baron Dieskau, whom he repulsed and forced back upon Crown Point. This success restored the spirit of the hitherto discomfited provincial troops, but circumstances did not permit their following up their success this season.

1756.—The Marquis de Montcalm arrived from France with a fine army, reduced Fort Oswego, and displayed his warlike trophies in Montreal. He also succeeded in destroying the outworks of Fort George, and the bateaux and sloops prepared for an attack on Crown Point.

1757.—Bigot continued to pursue his iniquitous career of fraud, oppression, and most nefarious conduct, while Montcalm was occupied with extensive plans of warfare. This year's campaign was signalized by the capture of Fort George and the massacre of 2000 of its inhabitants by the Indians under his command. This latter affair roused the indignation of the British government, and the determination of the English colonists to destroy French dominion in America was supported by the energy which the elder Pitt infused into the councils of his sovereign.

1758.—This year was principally spent in preparing for the blow intended at French dominion, and no means were spared to excite the people to meet the invaders, as the warfare in which France was engaged in Europe did not permit her to spare many troops to defend her colonial possessions. The clergy, who dreaded a conquest by a protestant government, lent their powerful aid towards encouraging the people to defend the country against the enemies of France and the Romish religion.

1759.—The military operations of this year form a glorious era in the history of our country, but our limits will not permit us to state them but very briefly. The British government, at the urgent request of the colonists, resolved on a decisive measure. The colonists themselves were to have an opportunity of co-operating with the regular troops, who were to attack Canada at three points. To General James Wolfe was assigned the task of attacking Quebec from sea; to Sir W. Johnson, the reduction of Fort Niagara; and General Amherst, that of Crown Point and Ticonderoga; and in case of success, a junction of the armies was to take place at Montreal. Wolfe landed in June on the Island of Orleans, with an army of 8000 men, to whom was opposed the Marquis de Montcalm with 9800 disposable forces and a reserve of 2800 men;