

pleasant, and apparently fertile, and capable of valuable improvements." The narrative then goes on to say that "the River St. Lawrence takes its leave of Lake Ontario at the north-east corner of it. Near the lake it is ten or twelve miles wide, having several islands on it, on one of which, the most northerly, at the head of the rifts, is a small fortress erected by the French and now kept up by us." The Major uses, we will observe, the good old English word "Rifts" for "Rapids"—or parts of a river where the bed is broken into steps or precipices: this is, in fact, the exact representative of the word *Cataract*, which properly denotes a broken, rocky bed of a river, rather than an abrupt fall of the whole stream.

This Major Rogers was the officer sent up by General Amherst from Montreal, in 1760, to take possession of the French posts in the west, evacuated after the conquest.

In 1799 appeared David William Smith's *Topographical Description and Provincial Gazetteer of Upper Canada*. Its full title runs as follows:—"A Short Topographical Description of His Majesty's Province of Upper Canada, in North America, to which is annexed a Provincial Gazetteer. London: published by W. Faden, Geographer to His Majesty and to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Charing Cross, 1799. Printed by W. Bulmer and Co., Russell Court, Cleveland Row, St. James'."

It is said in the preface to have been drawn up by "David William Smith, Esq., the very able Surveyor-General of Upper Canada, on the plan of the late Captain Hutchins, for the River Ohio and the countries adjacent."

This work gives briefly the name and situation of all the original townships, towns, counties, and districts of Upper Canada, together with names and situations of all the lakes, bays, islands, and rivers. As being the first record of the kind, it has now acquired, as I have said, a certain historical interest. What I have attempted to do in the republication of this Gazetteer in the *Canadian Journal* is, to subjoin to the several names such information as may seem needful for elucidation: if a native name, to give, if possible, the interpretation: if a name transferred either from the British Islands or from France, to point out the place or object bearing that name in the mother-countries of the Colony, or the statesman, nobleman, or prince sought to be complimented or commemorated by this application of his name.