

A SEPARATE PROVINCE.

On the 16th August, 1784, a Commission issued under the provincial seal to Thomas Carleton, Esq., appointing him Captain General and Governor-in-Chief of the Province of New Brunswick, the boundaries of which were set off and defined as they stand at present. On the 22nd November, 1784, this Commission was received and promulgated at St. John, and the first entry on the record is as follows :—

" PARR TOWN, 22nd Nov., 1784. His Majesty's commission, above recited, constituting and appointing Thomas Carleton, Esq., Capt. Gen. and Governor-in-Chief of the Province, having been duly published, His Excellency repaired to the Council Chamber, where he took the oath by law required, and administered the same to George Duncan Ludlow, James Putnam, Abijah Willard, Gabriel Ludlow, Isaac Allen, William Hazen and Jonathan Odell, Esqs., they being of the number nominated in the King's instructions to be of His Majesty's Council for this Province; and the members above named having taken their seats in Council, a proclamation of the Governor was read notifying the boundaries of the Province as established in the King's commission, and commanding all officers, civil and military, to continue in the execution of their respective offices."

Before this country was erected into a separate Province, a great number of extravagant and improvident grants had been made. Among others, Sir Andrew S. Hammond, at one period Governor of Nova Scotia, got 100,000 acres on the Hammond river, which took its name from him. Sir John Sinclair got 100,000 acres between the Kennebecasis and Washademoac. Our Governor and Council forthwith set about escheating these large grants because the conditions of settlement were not complied with, and they acted with such spirit, determination and high sense of duty that nearly the whole of the lands as granted were revested in the crown. Thus a great barrier to the settlement of this province was