

mentioned are still not unfamiliar at Quebec.

We have already stated in a footnote that Mr. Davison departed for England, with a convoy from Bic, prior to October 31st, 1782—about a fortnight after his memorable interview with Nelson on the beach at Quebec.

Reverting to Davison's own account of that interview, as recorded by Clarke and McArthur, it is noticeable that no mention is made of the name of the lady concerned. But it would have been in bad taste to have furnished it—unacceptable to herself and friends, and probably wounding to her feelings. The only good purpose which would have been served by so doing, that occurs to us, might have been to prevent the false suggestions and inferences already alluded to.

There is nothing in the account, which, fairly considered, would justify a belief that the object of Nelson's passionate admiration was not a person of the highest respectability in Quebec Society.

The expression used 'an amiable American lady,' signifies simply one belonging to this side of the Atlantic, although, if employed at present it would denote a citizen of the United States.

The more significant points in the narrative, in view of her identification, are those which refer to Mr. Davison's having bestowed on Nelson, at this time 'and long afterwards, innumerable acts of kindness;' also, the statement that the lady was 'afterwards married and resided in London.' These, as we hope to make clear, furnish us with the clue.

That she was not one of Mrs. Prentice's nieces, celebrated for personal attractions at Quebec in those days, is apparent from what has been already given in this paper. These young ladies could not have been justly styled 'American,' since both had been imported not long before from Ireland by their aunt, who had no children of

her own. Moreover, they both married and settled down in this country previously to Nelson's visit—one the wife of Mr. Lachlan Smith, the other of Mr. James Thompson; nor did either of them, as is well known, ever cross the Atlantic again, as must have been the case to accord with the intimation 'who was afterwards married and resided in London.'

We now proceed to the actual identification of the lady.

At the sieges of Louisbourg, in 1758 and Quebec in 1759, there were with Wolfe, two volunteers—*Mr. James Thompson and Mr. James Simpson*—attached to the celebrated corps of Fraser Highlanders. They had joined it for service in America with the hope, which they had been encouraged to entertain, of being advanced to a commission on the occurrence of vacancies. They were first cousins, and during the whole period of their subsequent lives maintained a close intimacy. Both remained at Quebec after the conquest, when the troops were disbanded, and both were married; but Mr. Thompson having become a widower, he selected as his second wife the elder of Mrs. Prentice's nieces. This marriage, which took place in the year 1780, was celebrated by the Rev. Mr. Dumoulin, chaplain of the troops, in the presence of a small but select company, amongst whom were Thompson's particular friends, *Captain Twiss*, of the Royal Engineers, *Mr. John Collins*, Deputy Surveyor-General; his cousin, Mr. James Simpson, and the Prentices. It is recorded in Mr. Thompson's journal of that date that the wife of his cousin Simpson disapproved of the match. She was therefore not present on the occasion, the alleged reason being 'a coolness' which subsisted between her and Mrs. Prentice.

Previously to his marriage, Mr. Thompson, whose business quarters were in the Bishop's Palace, on the site where the Local Parliament Buildings now stand, had resided, or