

After the confiscation of their estates by the British Government the building fell into ruins, and the part fronting on Notre Dame street had to be taken down. This was in the early part of the present century, soon after which the Government exchanged the property (which was then of far greater depth and width than now, extending from Notre Dame street to Lemoine street in one direction, and from St. Peter to McGill in the other, and planted with venerable elms of great magnitude) from St. Helen's Island.—then owned by Baron Grant, the proprietor of the adjacent seigniory of Longueuil. The Baron seems to have made a good bargain by the transfer, for almost immediately after the transaction he sold several of the lots on St. Peter and Notre Dame Streets (the ground now occupied by Moss' stores) to the Hon. James Leslie, and the old church itself and one or two adjacent buildings to the Fabrique, who, it is said, therefor paid the then handsome sum of £4,500. The remainder of the property was laid out into lots and streets, one of which (Lemoine) was named after the Baroness' family. At this period (1817) the Fabrique were contemplating the erection of the present stately parish church, and soon after proceeded to repair the Recollet church. Eight years however elapsed before the work of restoration was completed. The old parish church, which then stood lengthwise in the middle of Notre Dame street, was, in the meantime, taken down, and its cut-stone front transferred to the Recollet church, the galleries and interior decorations being at the same time given to the Bonsecours church in St. Paul street. The date "1775" cut on the stone work above the principal entrance of Recollet Church is consequently apt to deceive with respect to the real age of the building. It was cut on the front of the old parish church in the year which it represents, but that church had been erected long previously,—in 1672. These repairs to the Recollet Church were finally completed in 1825, at which period the Rev. Messire Provost was appointed curé. The Irish residents in the communion of the church then attended it and continued to do so until St. Patrick's Church was completed. The other incumbents were the late Rev. Mr. Perrault and the Rev. Mr. Giband. Until within a few years the remains of many of the Recollet Fathers reposed within the vaults of the edifice they had assisted to erect and with them many of their grateful parishioners. The former were buried in the long woollen shrouds peculiar to the order, the materials of which still remained intact and perfect when the ghastly Fathers were recently removed to their new and last homes in the Cote des Neiges Cemetery. The memoirs and traditions of the past century speak in high terms of the zeal and piety of these old monks, who, by the self-abnegating rules of their order, were condemned to a life-long existence of pain and mortification, and self-condemned to live upon the alms of the charitable. In one sense it is to be regretted that the pecuniary necessities of the Fabrique are about to force such an old historical monument to the hammer; but the spirit of progress will take no note of this, especially as the site is undoubtedly one of the finest and most desirable ever put up to auction in the centre of a bustling city—and our capitalists are probably fully alive to its advantages and the productive uses it may be put to. Mr. Arnton will doubtless have a wealthy and influential audience when he puts it up for sale on the 15th instant.—*Montreal Gazette.*

2. THE ISLAND OF VALENTIA.

The Island of Valentia, the Irish Terminus of the Atlantic cable, is about 6,000 acres in extent. It has three proprietors, of whom the Knight of Kerry is the chief, the others being Trinity College, Dublin, and Col. Herbert of Muckcross.—The population is about 2,000; but although the Knight is a staunch Protestant, his co-religionists do not number more than 150. The harmony of this little community (says a correspondent of the *London Star*) is, however, undisturbed by religious discord. The old priest, who is now between 80 and 90 years of age, has had charge of the parish for half a century, and his watch-word has always been 'Peace.' The average value of land is about 15 shillings an acre. Much more of it is used for grazing purposes than for cultivation, the principal article manufactured being butter. Most of the cottages are simply hovels; but there is a very considerable number of a better class, and the peasantry have a well-fed, comfortable appearance. They owe much to the Knight, who spends nearly the whole of the income he derives from his property in improvements, and in giving employment to the people. He is regarded with a feudal reverence, tempered by modern manners. His traditional title gives him no precedence at court, but his ancient lineage really places him far before the mushroom creation of yesterday.—The late Knight, who was a protege of Lord Castlereagh and a distinguished politician, being once addressed as 'my lord' by an officious servitor, impatiently replied, 'Don't call me lord.—I don't wish to be anything of the kind.' Perhaps he remembered the Arab proverb, 'The dog when he has money must be called 'my lord the dog.' It is pleasant to be able to reconcile these relics of feudalism with the humanizing claims of modern civilization. It is pleasant also to find that the

Racoon has been here three months without discovering a single Fenian; and that although yesterday I saw the Fenian flag—the harp and the sun on a ground of green—hoisted on a skiff, this was done more in bravado than in earnest, and proves by its singularity that this imbecile form of disloyalty is altogether exceptional in Valentia and the adjacent mainland.

3. SKETCH OF HEART'S CONTENT.

The name given to the locality known as Heart's Content is by no means indicative of its real condition. The whole of Newfoundland is a dreary place at best, the extreme length of the island being 420 miles, and its area 36,000 square miles. First discovered in 1497 by John Cabot, and known as St John until 1583, the island was in that year named Newfoundland by Sir Humphrey Gilbert, though the point where Cabot landed still retained the name of St. John. The usual starting point for Heart's Content is Halifax, and from that point to Portugal Cove the trip is made in a lumbering coach, whose conveniences are none and whose charges are extortionate. Thus far the trip is confined to public conveyance; and thence however, private enterprise must take the onus. There are no stages for their is ordinarily no travel. Nothing but a long hilly stretch of unbroken country connects the dirty Hamlet of Cabonear with the cramped and miserable settlement of Heart's Content. Once reached, Heart's Content is found to be a small coast settlement with no buildings worthy of note, and perhaps 700 inhabitants. Nothing in or of itself suggested its name nor secured its present prominence, but henceforth Heart's Content must have a name of historic interest, and stand side by side with the great names of the world, as it was selected as the American terminus of the international coil. The cable may break, the enterprise may be destined to failure and abandonment, but still Heart's Content must be noted.

To its bay the place is indebted for its future fame. Such a harbor must have a destiny. Like that at Acapulco, it would seem impossible for the Creator to fashion it by accident or without design. For purposes of ordinary commerce, it is and can be of no avail, for there are no avenues of trade here, but for the landing place of the cable, for the safe anchorage of great ships of war, whose protectorate may some day be invoked, for all purposes of tonnage and cableistic facility, this bay is simply superb. Should success attend the present enterprise, should the laid cable be enabled to do its duty, this place will become one of the curiosities of the hemisphere. It cannot fail to grow and become a great resort. As the seat of fashionable society during the Summer months it would be without a rival. The broad deep basin, which sleeps in perfect tranquility, leads directly from the little town. The place itself is surrounded by hills, abounding in trees and groves, and the harbor is some thirty miles from the former cable terminus.

The people there fish for a living, and eat fish for sustenance. Visitors, of whom there are many, now find no hotels and poor boarding houses, and the inhabitants are charging enormous rates for scanty and poor accommodations. Travellers also complain that the mosquitoes, or rather misquito-gnat, are most persistent biters and annoying musicians.

Such is Heart's Content. A better place could not have been chosen for the safe landing of the cable. Its advantages over the former selection are obvious, and so far as mere still deep water and a quiet basin are concerned, no skilled engineer could have so well devised a harbor as did the Great Architect of this.

4. THE RECONSTRUCTED MAP OF EUROPE.

The treaty signed at Prague between Prussia, Austria, Italy, and Bavaria, has materially altered the old boundaries of the map of Europe. Before the late war the appearance of Prussia on the map was that of an elongated and almost disjointed country. It was composed of the following Provinces and populations:

PRUSSIA BEFORE THE WAR.

| Provinces. | Area in Square Miles. | Pop. in 1864 |
|---|-----------------------|--------------|
| Silesia | 15,762 | 3,510,706 |
| Rhein | 10,352 | 3,345,195 |
| Prussia | 25,063 | 3,014,595 |
| Brandenburg | 16,601 | 2,616,583 |
| Saxony | 9,700 | 2,043,965 |
| Westphalia | 7,819 | 1,666,581 |
| Posen | 11,401 | 1,523,729 |
| Pomerania | 12,294 | 1,437,365 |
| Hohenzollern | 443 | 64,958 |
| Jande | 5 | 1,573 |
| Garrisons in Mayence, Frankfort and Luxemburg | — | 28,869 |
| Lunenburg (Duchy) | 361 | 49,704 |
| Total | 108,771 | 19,304,843 |