

### February in Canadian History.

February, but little past our mid-winter, has not an important place in the annals of Canada, but there are some interesting events which happened in this month, and to which brief reference may be made.

We can picture the sufferings from cold, hunger and disease endured by Cartier and his band of Frenchmen at Stadacona (Quebec) in the winters 1536 and 1542; of Roberval and his mutinous followers at Charlesbourg Royal (Cap Rouge) in 1543; of Champlain on the desolate island of St. Croix in 1605. Long must the winters have seemed in the after years to the French colonizers at Quebec when rival factions were at war within the walls of the old fortress; when the *habitant*, homesick and often in bitter want, gazed longingly eastward over the snow and frozen wastes of the St. Lawrence, waiting for the warmth of spring and the white sails that should bring him fresh stores and news from beloved France. In contrast to these scenes turn to the winters at Port Royal, early in the seventeenth century, when the knights of the "Order of Good Time" laughed at the rigours of this northern climate and spent the long winter evenings in mirth and festivity.

It was in February, 1663, when after the struggle of a century French Canada scarcely numbered 2,000 souls, that a series of earthquakes began which did not cease until the following summer, and the effects of which were long remembered with superstitious terror. The ice in the river St. Lawrence in places crumbled into fragments, the frozen ground shook, and at one spot, since called Les Eboulements ("earth-slips"), a huge promontory was hurled into the river to form an island.

It was on the 6th of February, 1682, that La Salle, the famous explorer, after an overland journey from Quebec, found his way to the Mississippi river, and after a voyage of two months on its broad current emerged upon the waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

On the 10th of February, 1763, the treaty of Paris was signed, by which France yielded to Great Britain "Canada with all its dependencies."

February 9th, 1776, Capt. Cook received his commission from the British government to explore the north-western part of America; and it was in February, 1779, that this gallant voyager was killed by the natives of the Sandwich Islands, having explored the coasts of British Columbia and Alaska during the previous summer of 1778.

February 6th, 1813, Brockville, Ont., was raided by United States troops, and on the 22nd of the

same month British and Canadian soldiers, in retaliation, captured Ogdensburg, New York.

The 10th of February, 1841, witnessed the union of Upper and Lower Canada into one province and the establishment of responsible government.

On the 10th of February, 1867, the British North American Act, confederating the provinces of Canada, was passed by the Imperial Parliament.

February 15th, 1888, the Fishery Treaty was signed at Washington by the representatives of Great Britain, Canada and the United States. In the following August it was rejected by the United States Senate.

On the 27th of February, 1900, the battle of Paardeburg, South Africa, was fought and a number of Canadian soldiers killed.

February 12th, 1902, the Marquis of Dufferin died. He was governor-general of Canada from 1872 to 1878.

February 11th, 1903, the Alaskan Boundary Treaty between Great Britain and the United States was ratified by the Senate of the latter country.

### The Misses at School.

There was once a school  
Where the mistress, Miss Rule,  
Taught a number of misses that vexed her;  
Miss Chief was the lass  
At the head of the class,  
And young Miss Demeanor was next her.

Poor little Miss Hap  
Spilled the ink in her lap,  
And Miss Fortune fell under the table;  
Miss Conduct they all  
Did a Miss Creant call,  
But Miss State declared this was a fable.

Miss Lay lost her book,  
And Miss Lead undertook  
To show her the place where to find it;  
But upon the wrong nail  
Had Miss Place hung her veil,  
And Miss Deed hid the book safe behind it.

They went on very well,  
As I have heard tell,  
Till Miss Take brought in Miss Understanding;  
Miss Conjecture then guessed  
Evil things of the rest,  
And Miss Counsel advised their disbanding.

—The Advance.

A subscriber in Ontario writes: "I am greatly pleased with the sample number of the REVIEW, and send you my subscription to begin with the January number."  
F. S. G.