

#### AFTER THE STORM

ment in December, 1838, but he only remained in office nine months. These were difficult times, and a Governor who was a stranger to the country could not be expected to immediately grasp the situation, or to apply a remedy that in an instant would satisfactorily dispose of grievances which had been nursed for many years. The Governor adopted a policy which was considered extremely harsh, and it was not received with favour, either here, or in England. C. E. Poulett Thompson, afterwards Lord Sydenham, entered upon the duties of Governor in October, 1839, and remained in office until his death, in 1841. He was the first to introduce responsible government, but the exact nature of this form of government was not very well understood, and there was constant disagreement. The outbreak, in 1837, had called the attention of the authorities to the want of volunteer corps, and, in the year 1839, the several regiments in Quebec were well organized.

Sir Charles Bagot succeeded Lord Sydenham in 1842, but a year later he was obliged to retire on account of ill health. Short as his career was, he had commenced to act as an intermediary between the two factions. Lord Metcalfe succeeded Bagot and occupied the office from 1843 to 1845. The latter year was long remembered on account of the disastrous fire which consumed the whole of the suburbs of St. Rochs. One month later, St. John's suburb, near the Upper Town, was destroyed by fire, the loss to the people being estimated at over \$3,000,000. England and the