

After Wolfe, the three following stories are of men who, though not great generals, played their parts in times of disturbance and war. This new war was not with the French. They had by this time given up hope of winning North America. It was between men of the British race. On the one side fought colonists who were determined to have as free a government as the Englishmen at home; on the other were British soldiers and colonists, who, at any cost, wished to prevent the snapping of the ties binding the colonies to the mother country. As we all know, the Loyalists were defeated, and were driven from their old homes to Nova Scotia and Canada. This is a very important part of our thread, for the Dominion of Canada probably would not have existed but for the Loyalists.

Still another war—that with the United States in 1812—followed. There were battles by land and water, Nova Scotia being most keenly interested in the sea fights; and so we have the story of a man who was at once a Nova Scotian and a British naval officer.

Our connecting thread now leads through times of peace without and hard struggle within our country. The lions to be faced by the great men of this period were bad government and the selfishness of those in power, and boldly they met and overthrew them.

Meanwhile our history was gradually being entwined more closely with the histories of other British lands. The provinces “down by the sea,” which had long seemed to lie apart from the rest of the world, were now being drawn by different means into closer union both with the mother land and the sister colonies. At last the several different strands of British-American history were twisted at Confederation into one strong cord, and our two last stories tell of men who notably served the whole Dominion.