

Journal | of the Progress of | H. R. H. the Prince of Wales | through British North America ; | and | His Visit to the United States, | 10th July to 15th November, 1860. | By Gardner D. Engleheart, | Private Secretary to the Duke of New Castle. | Privately Printed. |

The book (110 pp.) has many illustrations and several maps. A copy of it is in the library of the Law Society of Upper Canada, at Osgoode Hall. Inserted in it is the following letter from the author :

" Colonial Office, 4 June, 1861.

" My Dear Dr. Jelf,

" Will you do me the favour to accept the accompanying copy of a journal kept during our recent visit to America. It may interest you as a faithful record of a remarkable event. It was, of course, never meant to assume other than a MS form, but having found favor in certain quarters it was privately printed. Believe me.

" Yours very truly,

" GARDNER D. ENGLEHEART."

The writer, John Gardner Dillman Engleheart, C. B., M. A., became clerk of the council of the Duchy of Lancaster in 1872.

W. GEO. EAKINS.

Osgoode Hall, Toronto,
Nov. 15, 1900.



LABRADORE TEA.—(No. 56, vol. I, p. 98-134-167.)—In answer to the Query No. 56, I beg to give you a few quotations from Mrs. Trail's *Plant-Life in Canada*.

An old friend, one of the sons of a U. E. Loyalist, told me that some years after leaving the United States (the family were from Vermont) that the genuine Chinese tea was rarely to be met with in the houses of the settlers, especially those who lived in lonely backwood settlements, that for the most part they made infusions of the leaves of the red root, or New Jersey tea, as they learned to call it, of Labrador Tea, *Ledum Latifolium*, sweet fern,

Comptonia Asplenifolia, Mountain mint, or other aromatic herbs... Labrador Tea was held in great repute among lumbermen and old backwoods men for its sanatory qualities, as a strengthener and purifier of the blood, and as being good for the system in various complaints. Some of the old settlers used a decoction of the leaves as a substitute for tea, approving of the resinous aromatic flavor...

Though I did not care for the decoction of the leaves, I was charmed with the beauty of the plant, when I first saw it growing on the banks of one of the lakes near Peterborough. The whole aspect of this remarkable shrub is most interesting. Its height varies from two to four feet, it is bushy in habit, somewhat open and spreading; the leaves are lanceolate; entire very decidedly revolute at the margins, and clothed with a dense rust colored woolly felt beneath. The leaves are of a thick leathery texture and dull brownish green colour. The flowers are white, forming elegant nimble-like clusters at the summits of the slender sprays. As the heads of flowers are very abundant, this shrub forms a striking object, when seen growing in numbers, along the banks of lakes or in low flats, for it will flourish both on wet and dry situations, nor does it refuse to flower when brought into garden culture. It is a very ornamental object, deserving to be better known than at present seems to be the case. The leaves when bruised emit an agreeable resinous aromatic odor.

As all the American Colonists refused to buy the taxed tea, they made tea of (or rather a hot drink) of various herbs, such as sage, hemlock, catnip, peppermint. In fact any thing they could find to take the place of tea. They also dressed in homespun. Women in those days could be patriotic as well as men, and it was no small depravation to some of them not to have even a ribbon (rebband) on their heads.

AGNES CHAMBERLAIN.

The "Den," Lakefield, Ont.
Nov. 28, 1900.