

without much hesitation to become a Catholic. It is highly probable that Mr. Plessis learned his determination with pleasure, and gladly undertook to instruct him also in the chief articles of his creed.

At this interesting period of their overtures, it happened that Lemaistre was informed of his nomination to the Lieutenant-Governorship of Gaspé, with orders to leave immediately for England, where he should receive personal instructions from the Colonial Office. He owed this appointment of the English Government, to the influence of Lord Dorchester, who esteemed him very highly, and also of Richard Cumberland, a distinguished literary man who was well known, and at that time agent of Canada in England.

Young Lemaistre who could not refuse obedience to such an order, was thus without time to prepare himself to enter the catholic religion. However, he was unwilling to leave the country without completing that union so much desired. In some way which I cannot now explain, matters were arranged and the marriage took place. Thereupon the young couple without more delay set sail for England (d).

On his arrival at London, Francis Lemaistre was assured that he would soon receive his commission. Circumstances appear to have arisen which caused delay and led the young husband who soon became tired of waiting, to go with his wife upon a visit to his father in Jersey.

There the happy couple mingled with the other members of the family, and shared their labors and their joys. Lemaistre's father was an old sea dog. Like the greater part of the inhabitants of this island of the English Channel, he had passed a part of his life on ship-board. It will be remembered that even at that date, frequent cases of piracy were committed between vessels which met on the high seas. The seamen of the conquering ship pillaged the dis-

(d) The preceding events happened in the beginning of the summer of 1794; they returned to Canada in the same year.