



THE ST. LAWRENCE,

From the Citadel, Quebec.

prime of life, whose lot had been apparently peculiarly exempt from any endurance of hardships; first in the bosom of an aristocratic home, next in the refinement of a university, lastly in the pleasures and retirement of a small rural parish. However, in the thirty-second year of his age Mr. Stewart offered his services as a missionary to the Society of the Propagation of the Gospel, and was appointed to the mission of St. Armand. He sailed from Plymouth on the 7th of August, 1807. On the 27th September he arrived at Quebec; and after a few days' stay, both there and at Montreal, he set out for his mission at St. Armand, a seigniory situated about 70 miles southeast from Montreal, which he reached on Saturday the 21st October.

On making inquiries as to the possibility of holding a service on Sunday he was advised not to attempt it on the grounds that not long before a preacher had made a similar attempt, but finding the people wicked and abandoned had left in despair. "Then," said Mr. Stewart, "this is the very place of duty for me—here I am needed, and by God's grace, here I will remain, and trust to Him in whose hand are the hearts of all people for success." And here he did remain until the place became a flourishing mission.

On January 20th, 1809, Mr. Stewart opened a church at Frelighsburg, in the eastern part of the seigniory of St. Armand, when there was a congregation of a thousand persons. And in the following August, when the Bishop of Quebec visited the parish, there were sixty candidates for confirma-

tion. In July, 1811, Divine service was performed for the first time, in another new church dedicated to St. Paul, erected at an expense of 800*l.*, near Philipsburg, in the western part of the seigniory. Two-fifths of the cost of the two churches were contributed by Mr. Stewart himself. The churches were twelve miles apart, and he travelled between them on horseback, for there was no road.

In 1812, and for some time afterwards, England was at war with the United States, and the settlers on the Canadian frontier were kept in continual agitation by the apprehension of attacks from their Republican neighbors. Many families quitted the province. Mr. Stewart's parishioners were called out to meet the invaders; and casualties occurred which he turned to good account in his ministrations. At the conclusion of hostilities a day of general thanksgiving was appointed, and was celebrated throughout Canada in 1814.

On July 9th, 1815, Mr. Stewart preached his last sermon and administered the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper for the last time as missionary at St. Armand. It was a solemn day, and many wept sore, sorrowing most of all lest they should see his face no more; for he was to embark for England in a few days. In England he collected £2,000, by means of which twenty-four churches were afterwards partially erected.

After completing his business in England, and taking the degree of Doctor in Divinity, he returned to Canada in November, 1817. Finding his former mission of St. Armand in a highly satisfactory state under the Rev. J. Reid, who had been