

proportion to the quantity of Acres desired a sufficient number of White Persons and Negroes."

Again, in clause 72, which enumerates a number of subjects upon which the Governor was directed to report to the Commissioners for Trade and Plantation, we find that inquiry is to be made as follows :

"What is the number of inhabitants, Whites and Blacks, distinguishing each? What number of the former is capable of bearing Arms, and what number of the latter is annually necessary to be supplied in Proportion to the Land cultivated?"

Apparently the Government of that day had the impression that Canada was a colony of slaveholders in which a steady importation of negroes was necessary to maintain the standard of agricultural production and fill the places of those annually used up by the severity and hardships incidental to plantation labor. Ignorance of Canadian conditions at that early stage was neither surprising nor discreditable, but it is surely a little singular, in view of later misconceptions, that it should have assumed this particular form.

PHILLIPS THOMPSON.

TORONTO.

## AN EARLY BURGLARY.

WHILE the skilled burglar is essentially an outcome of modern complex civilization, he made an early appearance in the history of Canada. We have the record of a skilful and successful robbery in Port Hope in 1829. Captain C. A. Williams, of Toronto, has a copy of a proclamation, in which a reward of \$500 with additional sums in English currency is offered for the conviction of certain persons who succeeded in robbing Commander John T. Williams, a leading citizen of Port Hope, of the large sum of five thousand pounds and also stole from the till of the hotel where Commander Smith resided some forty pounds. As one of the links with the past, of which there are none too many preserved in this country, and inasmuch as several of those named in and subscribing to the document have descendants well known to the present generation, the following reproduction of the document cannot fail to be interesting :

500 DOLLARS

**REWARD.**

DARING ROBBERY  
AT PORT HOPE.

WHEREAS on the night of Monday, the 24th day of August, the Mansion House Hotel at Port Hope was feloniously entered, and property in Cash and Notes to the amount of £5,000 stolen from the suite of apartments occupied by JOHN T. WILLIAMS, ESQUIRE, the property of the subscriber.—There were also stolen at the same time, out of the Bar of the said House, Cash and Notes belonging to MR. ROBERT SMITH, the Inn-keeper, to the amount of £40, and about 20 yards of Blue Cloth.

The above Reward will be paid by the Subscriber to any Person that will give such information of the Robbery as may bring the Culprits to Justice and conviction.

JOHN T. WILLIAMS.

*Port Hope, Aug. 25, 1829.*

In addition to the above Reward, the undersigned Magistrates and Gentlemen of this vicinity, offer the sums opposite to their respective names, on conviction of the person or persons who committed the said Robbery.

John D. Smith, J.P.	£12	10	0
David Smart, J.P.	12	10	0
William Ouston	12	10	0
Charles Fothergill	12	10	0
G. B. Boswell	12	10	0
Erasmus Fouke	5	0	0
T. Ward	12	10	0
M. F. Whitehead	12	10	0

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Commander Smith, of Her Majesty's Navy, the victim of the burglary, came to Canada in 1813, at the close of the