

of the royal grandfather of our beloved Queen having once stood on the place now designated as the most appropriate to receive that of Her Majesty,—the Place d'Armes of this city: that some five and twenty years ago there was found at the bottom of the well on that square a fine marble head of George III., severed at the neck, either of a bust or a statue. This relic of the past is in the library of the National History Society, and may be seen by the curious.

"As bearing on this interesting subject I lay before you the following tradition, which I have every reason to believe correct and worthy of credit.

"In the years 1800 and 1801 I lodged in the house of a respectable Canadian family in Montreal, with the view of becoming familiar with the French language. This family consisted of two elderly ladies, Mesdemoiselles Peladeau, and some other relatives: they were contemporaries of the invasion of Canada by the Americans in 1775 and '76, and were full of anecdote of the events of those stirring times. Among other subjects of conversation relating to the occupation of Montreal by the American army, they informed me that a statue of the King had occupied a niche or alcove on the Place d'Armes, and that it had been destroyed by the American soldiery. This is strong traditional evidence of the point in question. The well was close at hand, offering the readiest receptacle to dispose of the statue. What became of the statue does not yet appear, it may probably some day come to light.

"I have a perfect recollection of this alcove still standing in 1792, having frequently seen and played about it while, as a wee laddie, I attended Mr. Findlay Fisher's school in its immediate neighborhood. Mr. Fisher occupied at that time the South corner house of the square, opposite the Seminary new buildings. The old Parish Church, it may be recollected by many of the inhabitants of Montreal, stood off the line of Notre Dame Street, causing that street to deviate from the straight line, and wind round the north-west side of the church. On the opposite side of the street at this bend stood the alcove spoken of; it was a plain building at the back and two ends, open in front towards the church; as well as I can recollect it was about fifteen feet long and seven to eight feet deep, the roof sloping toward the north-west. From its size and shape it seemed ill adapted to the reception of a single statue. This circumstance induces me to believe that it was not constructed in that intention, but of an older date, and built for some other purpose: possibly, from its shape and position, as a station for religious processions, or some other use in connexion with the church: a side door opened into the church immediately opposite this alcove. This is a mere conjecture, mainly arising out of the unsuitableness of the building as an appropriate receptacle for a statue of His Majesty George III.; if a niche had been purposely constructed to receive the statue it would undoubtedly have been of a suitable size and character, and placed on the middle of the square.

"The same ladies informed me that a tall wooden cross formerly stood on the Place d'Armes, and that it was one morning found prostrate on the ground, having been cut down the previous night, probably by the same mischievous people."

—Hon. Joseph Howe, Financial Secretary of Nova Scotia, has presented a report to the Earl of Mulgrave, Lieutenant Governor of the colony, on the subject of the gold mines, which has already attracted considerable attention in the United States. The Secretary says:—"The existence of auriferous regions in Nova Scotia was unsuspected till 1860. In March, this year, a man, stooping to drink at a brook, found a piece of gold shining among the pebbles over which the stream flowed. He picked it up, and searching, found more. This was about half a mile to the river, a stream of no great magnitude, taking its rise not very far from the sources of the Musquodoboit, flowing through a chain of lakes which drain, for many miles on either side, a rugged and wild country, and falling into the Atlantic about forty miles to the eastward of Halifax. Your Excellency visited the mines in May, and your attention was arrested by the fact that two men from one of the agricultural districts had taken from a pit, dug four feet wide by five feet deep, seventy-five dollars worth of gold, three days prior to your visit. As six dollars would have paid the men for their labour, it was apparent they had made a profit of sixty-nine dollars in three days. This profit was not derived from the chance discovery of a nugget, but from crushing the quartz, veins of which, there was good reason to believe, ran for miles along the sea coast, or from washing the crumbling rock and soil by which they were surrounded. The Tangier mines have been visited during the summer by your Excellency, by Rear Admiral Milne, by Prince Napoleon and the Princess Clotilde. They were visited last week by the Hon. Mr. Tilley, Provincial Secretary of New Brunswick. The lowest dept yet reached is forty-five feet; and the largest nugget found is valued at \$300. The gold is got in quartz veins, running through slate or earth, resting upon granite, in the form of scales, jagged and torn bits, like shot or bullets fired against a wall. It is sometimes globular, but seldom completely round. The veins run east and west. It is found in the soil immediately around the veins, but placer washing has not been very profitable at Tangier, or perhaps has not been attempted on a scale sufficiently extensive to command a fair return. The quartz veins run in all directions through the promontory, and are visible to the naked eye without labor. These and the circumjacent soil were discovered to be auriferous in June, and a great number of persons rushed in and began to stake off claims. Though single lots were taken up by a good many, it was evident that the experience gathered

at Tangier had taught the value of combination. Companies were formed and larger acres applied for. The shore washings have proved very rich. Mr. Campbell having associated himself with—Ounard Esq., and Mr. R. G. Fraser, proceeded to examine the shore claims, which formed the frontage of some seventy lots staked by this company in the rear. Though no accurate return has been given by these gentlemen, there is every reason to believe that a very large sum has been taken from these shore claims within a month, and the rights of those three gentlemen have since been sold to a large company for £1,200, they retaining all that had been obtained up to the day of sale. At Tangier, Lunenburg, Lawrencetown, and Lake Thomas, the facts collected are indisputable; and the interest taken in those mines by capitalists at home and abroad, and by a very large number of the industrious classes, warrant your Excellency in assuming, and so reporting to the Secretary of State, that gold mining in those localities, whatever may occur elsewhere, will be permanently established as a new branch of industry, tempting to the capitalist and attractive to the immigrant."

WILD VINE.—It has often been asked whether wine could not be extracted from the wild grapes that grow spontaneously in many parts of Canada, and the same question may have presented itself to many of our readers who, while strolling in the vicinity of Montreal, have observed in the autumn, tempting clusters of this indigenous fruit bearing down branches of young trees, or peeping out from the high foliage of the stately denizen of the forest. Mr. de Courtenay, who has passed many years of his life in vine growing countries, lately leased Col. Sewell villa near Cap Rouge, where he had an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the wild vine of Canada. Being familiar with the art of wine-making he succeeded in extracting from 10 lbs. of fruit produced by one vine, ten bottles of wine of a beautiful color and tasting like Bordeaux, of these, three bottles were of a first quality and seven of a second; besides five bottles of vinegar. It is said Mr. de C. intends to plant 10 acres next spring with Canadian vine.

—The old Government House in Toronto, which has been lately burnt down, was built principally of wooden material, the outer walls being roughcast. Within the past ten years it had undergone considerable repairs and received extensive additions. The main portion was erected upwards of thirty years since, and was occupied successively by Governors Sir Priggrine Matland, Sir John Colborne, Sir Francis Bond Head, Sir George Arthur, Mr. Poulet Thompson, afterwards Lord Sydenham, and Sir Edmund Head. In 1847, the seat of Government being then in Montreal, it was occupied by the Normal School established in that year. On the return of the Government to Toronto in 1849, it was used for departmental purposes, a residence on Yonge street north of the College Avenue having been selected for Lord Elgin, the Governor General. In 1855 many additions were made to the building and the whole thoroughly repaired for the occupation of Sir Edmund Head who for four years found in it a pleasant and comfortable residence. In 1860 it was refitted for the Prince of Wales.—*All the Year Round.*

Loss of Personal Identity.—It is a well-authenticated fact, that soldiers wounded in the head, on recovery from the wound, have in some instances lost all consciousness of their personal identity. The case of a soldier who has just died in one of the Paris hospitals is a striking confirmation of this fact. Wounded at the battle of Solferino, the wound soon cicatrized, but he has ever since labored under a strange hallucination, fancying himself dead. When asked how he was, he would reply: "You want to know how Pierre Valin is—why he was killed at Solferino. What you see is not Valin, but a machine made to imitate him." Another soldier, who was also wounded in the head at the same time, always spoke of himself afterwards in the third person and in the feminine gender, and would exclaim: Oh! how she suffers; how thirsty she is." The eminent physician, Dr. Baudeloque, having suffered an injury to his brain in his old age, became utterly unconscious of his own existence, and whenever asked how his head was, would reply that he had no head.

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