

From an entry in the unpublished diary of the late Mr. James Thompson, overseer of Military Public Works at Quebec, in 1786, this inscription would be due to the action of the French Canadian citizens of Quebec, in appreciation of the condescension of General Hope in granting them a city gate at this spot.

"September 9th, 1786. Weather pleasant. The people employed as yesterday. "This afternoon the masons finished laying the *Facia* to the gate. I think it was "high time, tho' in fact it could be no sooner reasonably expected, not only from the "hands we have got, but from our not having cut stone ready before hand to bring us "forward. We have seven hands at it, four of them are artillery men who can "hardly be called half bred masons, and one of our three civilians is only a stone "layer. Thus, when we have a course of stones cut we lay it, and set to cutting "another, which makes the work exceedingly tedious. I am persuaded it will take "us till some time in November, before we can close the pediment. The French in- "habitants, in compliment to the commander in chief have requested to have some- "thing inscribed on a stone in this pediment to perpetuate his memory for his readi- "ness in condescending to give the people a Gate in this quarter."

The citadel was substituted to the detached works raised at different times by the French. The imperial Government in 1823, carried on the magnificent but costly system of defensive works, approved of by His Grace the Duke of Wellington.†

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† "The fortifications of Quebec" says W. J. Anderson, "are well worthy of special attention. Originating three centuries ago from the necessity of protecting the few inhabitants from the sudden and secret attacks of the Iroquois: from their small beginning in 1535, they eventually attained such vast proportions as to make Quebec be styled the *Gibraltar* of America.

Recently very great changes have been effected, in the first place arising from the great changes in the military art; in the second place from the new policy of the Imperial Government, which has withdrawn every soldier. Prescott and St. Louis gates have been removed during the past autumn (1871) and other still greater changes have been talked of, but this will diminish very little the interest of the Tourist, who unless informed of the fact, would not be aware of the removal of the gates; the remaining fortifications are in themselves a sight not to be seen elsewhere on this continent.

The fortifications now consist of those of the city proper, the *Ancient City*, and of the independent fortalice of the Citadel, which though within the City walls, is complete in itself—The ramparts and bastions form a circuit of the extent of two miles and three quarters, but if the line is drawn without the outworks would be increased to three miles. The Citadel occupies about forty acres. In order to inspect the works to most advantage, the visitor is recommended to proceed from his hotel up St. Louis street, and turning up the road between the *Gate* and the office of Engineers, ascend by its winding. The first thing that will attract his attention on arriving at the outworks, is the *Chain Gate*, passing through which and along the ditch he will observe the massed *Dalhousie Bastion*, and reaching *Dalhousie Gate* he will find that it is very massive and of considerable depth, as it contains the guard-rooms. Passing through, a spacious area is entered forming a parade ground. On the right hand, there are detached buildings—ammunition stores and armoury—On the south, the bomb proof hospital and officers quarters overlooking the St. Lawrence,