

were carefully preserved. Unless clothed in the romantic and historic attributes of honor and glory, the palace in the millionaire smells too much of chicane and trade to be worthy of more than a mere mention of its cost and design. Wealth and merely wealthy men never yet created a state, but the pursuit of wealth and the peculiarly avaricious and corrupt qualities of the wealthy when predominating, have ruined many a nation, and later on will be seen to have been the direct cause for the defeat at Montcalm and the fall of Canada in 1759, by the plundering of the intendant Rigot and his gang of thieves put in office by the influence of Madame Pissot de Compagnon, the court strumpet of France, who sold her charms to courtier, parliament and king for value received. There were about 150 seigneuries established in Canada, Acadia and Louisiana, 27 of which were elevated into baronies, viscounties, counties and marquisesates with one as a duchy. The manor-house was usually built of stone, containing many rooms, offices and a hall of council. Some of them were surrounded by a stone wall, which light the court yards and its out-buildings. In the early days this wall was surmounted with cannon. In the description of the de Frontenac castle at Nipisiguit in the Royal Society's Transactions for 1801 a fiction is made of the six cannon that were in battery on the ramparts.

A complete description is had of the Chateau de Longueuil, the home of the Lemoynes, and a picture was taken of the ruins in 1794. This castle was built in 1642 and burned in 1792. It was built of stone and was 180 feet broad by 270 long, with six towers. It stood near where now stands the parish church of Longueuil. It was the birthplace not only of the first baron de Longueuil, who was administrator of the country, but of his brother Gabriel Lemoyne, Chevalier d'Heville, the founder and first governor of Louisiana, of his brother Pierre, Chevalier de Beville, the founder of New Orleans, of another brother, the Chevalier de Chateauguay, who commanded the troops of Louisiana in the first Spanish treaty, who was also a governor of Louisiane and of the Marquis de Sevigny, who was also a governor of Louisiana as well as a naval commander. The last baron of the Lemoyne family, who was governor of Three Rivers in 1745, fell fighting for the liberties of Canada against the English, and his daughter and heiress married one of the exiled Scottish followers of Prince Charlie named

Captain Alexander Grant, to whose descendants the title of Baron de Longueuil has been transmitted.

Of the ancient Canadian castles that are yet standing might be mentioned St. Onis, Rimouski, St. Eustache, Lethbridge, Montbello, Ste. Marie de la Beauce, Val-d'Aren, Riverville,—all seats of eminent and distinguished families. The castle of Ramezay, in Montreal, while it has passed out of family possession and so has lost the affection of interest that clings about family domain, is the most famous of all from the noteworthy events which have occurred within its walls. It was built in 1705 by Claude de Ramezay, descended from a noble Scottish ancestor who many years before had settled in France. Claude was at the time of the building of the castle governor of the district of Montreal and Knight of the Royal and Military Order of St. Louis. His wife was of the family of Denys de La Ronde. One of his daughters, born in this castle, married her cousin, the Chevalier Louis Denys de La Ronde, who was governor of Port Royal and commander of all the French forces then in Acadia. And from this family also descended de Ramezay, the last French Governor of Quebec, at the time of the capitulation in 1759.

The castle, itself, came into possession of the government and continued to be the residence of all the French governors of the district and of the British governors down to the year 1840, during the administration of the Earl of Dalhousie, when Montreal ceased to be the capital of Canada. Since that time it has been used as a court, but of late it has passed to the Antiquarian Society, who have placed there their valuable historical paintings, the arms of many of the Canadian nobility, and a great collection of curiosities for public inspection.

Within its walls, the leaders of the province had assembled to meet the delegates from the Continental Congress—Carroll and Dr. Franklin—and there the Anglo-American Republicans, when they were in possession in 1775, held their councils. No great event happening in Canada before 1840, but what has left some memento of its inception, its progress, or termination in the history of the old Chateau de Ramezay. As may be said without fear of contradiction that of all family houses now standing in North America it is the most illustrious and the most historic.