

a stronger investment of St. John's, which, after a siege of forty-five days, surrendered, the garrison despairing of being succored. The year 1776 saw General Arnold retreating rapidly up the Richelieu, the following year saw General Burgoyne, with several thousand troops, a number of Indians and a powerful train of artillery, on his way to Lake Champlain to battle with the colonists—the fortunes of war having turned. After the close of the revolutionary war, peace and progress ensued for a number of years and during this time the axe of the



EVENING VIEW AT ST. JOHNS, P.Q.

settler had levelled many of the giants of the forest and laid the foundation of the number of prosperous towns and villages which are now scattered along the banks of the river. This peaceful time was somewhat broken by a period of suspense, culminating in the war of 1812. This war was of great interest to the people of the Richelieu valley; the action at Lacolle Mill, especially being a great fiasco, as (in the darkness of a night attack on Lacolle Mill) they mistook their own troops for the enemy, and, after some obstinate and bloody fighting, finally fell back to Champlain.

Isle aux Noix was the scene of a sharp naval engagement, too, in this war, resulting in the capture of the