

many other remarkable persons and incidents connected with the rise and growth of the Canadian Colony under the rule of no less than seventeen successive governors. It is reasonable to conclude that, considering she was a savage, and acquainted with all that was known of the past to her own people, she must have been an intelligent woman, and well able to make interesting disclosures. But if she did, these have not been placed on record.

Some time since, on the occasion of a visit to the General Hospital, use was made of an opportunity of conversing with one of the aged inmates of that institution. She appeared to be in possession of her mental faculties; and as she professed to remember incidents which occurred upwards of 80 years ago; we interrogated her on the subject of what has been styled "the dark days of Canada." One of these was Sunday, October 16th, 1785, and the two others the 2nd and 3rd of July, 1814. She said she recollected them, and that there had been an interval of about 30 years between the first and last. Finding her statement, so far, as correct as could be expected, we proceeded to question her further as to particulars, but we failed to elicit any other definite information, except the mention that she thought she was in fear on those occasions. Considering that the record phenomena of those dark days were remarkable enough to make a strong impression on the minds of the most ignorant persons, occasioning general alarm, and that the accompaniments of the first, such as the lighting-up of the churches and private houses in the day time, might have been impressed on her memory, we were not prepared to find that she recollected none of the particulars.

Quite of a different nature from the foregoing cases were those of the two well-known gentlemen named Thompson, father and son, of whom the latter, at an advanced age, died in Quebec last year. Mr. Thompson, senior, had been present with Gen. Wolfe at the first battle of the Plains, in the year 1759; and from the time of the occupation of the city by the British troops, in the autumn of that year, had remained a resident of it until his death, in 1830. In 1776, when Montgomery fell in an attempt to capture the place by assault, he superintended the interment of that general's remains. Forty-two years later, when he was about eighty years old, and when the widow of Montgomery reclaimed those remains, he was able, in the most perfect manner, to recall to mind all the particulars necessary for identifying the place of burial and for superintending the disinterment. Numerous other particulars, to the point, might be mentioned; but as they are very well known, there is no occasion to pass beyond an allusion to them. But we may be permitted to offer a comment. The circumstances of the case of Mr. Thompson shew what oral tradition might do for history if only the narrators proved to be persons of irreproachable integrity, good judgment, of cultivated minds, and active mental and bodily qualities, with the additional important advantage of having passed long lives amidst scenes calculated to perpetually freshen their memories and to remind them continually of even the minor incidents concerned.

In closing this portion of the subject, we cannot forbear referring to a somewhat remarkable instance of traditionary calumny and misappre-