

the country is to be saved from disruption and Confederation from collapse. Institutions whose roots are firmly embedded in the soil, interests whose fibres extend throughout the social fabric, beliefs and sentiments that shape the moral constitution of large classes and give character to Canada as a nation, are all threatened with convulsion by one man, who has declared, in effect, that the country must submit to either rule or ruin at his hands!

Men whose personal happiness and material welfare are bound up with orderly progress and honest methods of government form the great mass of Canadians; for we have really no class in this country analogous to the proletariat of Europe. It is, therefore, quite natural that wide-spread alarm should be felt at the open and oft repeated threat of the chief organ of the Conservative party, to plunge the country into an intestine strife of race and religion rather than Sir John Macdonald should cease to reign at Ottawa. Stupid, seditious, disloyal, as such threatening is, every day brings proof that it has failed in its intended purpose—that purpose being to frighten the people with the idea that they must put up with whatever sort of government the Macdonald party may graciously supply, or accept the alternative of a rebellion under Sir John. But, as a homely proverb says, Canadians have lived too long in the woods to be frightened by an owl. They do not doubt the willingness of the Boogie rigade to go to any lengths rather than be driven from their favorite occupation of plundering the treasury and robbing the country, at the same time they are convinced of the unavoidable necessity that demands a change.

Like buccanniers, who carried on their depredations on the high seas under false colors, Sir John and his piratical following have preyed upon the people of Canada while flying the Conservative flag. But their true character can no longer be concealed, and, discovering that they are found out, they imitate their exemplar Captain Kidd, and run up the black flag to the peak, and crowd the bulwarks with their outthroats. Thus the people of Canada perceive that they are face to face with an enemy who acknowledges no law; to whom defeat means ignominious death, and whose victims must accept permission to live in slavery as the greatest mercy they can expect. These being the conditions of the conflict, scabbards are flung away, and the battle between honest men, defending their lives and property, and rogues fighting for plunder, has begun.

A superstition, connected with the annals of nations, has been crystallized into the saying that "history repeats itself." This is especially true as regards the history of many men of commanding ability who have risen to eminence, but who, like Sejanus, blind to omens, deaf to admonitions, tempted their fate too far and fell, like Lucifer, never to rise again. The same fatality of conduct marks the careers of all such men. To preserve their power they resorted to crimes, involved popular rights, and, though they succeeded for a time, wrongs, perpetrated to bolster up errors of oppression, accumulated beyond endurance and then came the crash. These were men, like Sir John Macdonald,

"Who at heart cursed the race  
And who in God's face  
With a lie in their eyes."

These are the sort of men who realize Goldwin Smith's ideal of the only Government fitted for Canadians—tyranny based on corruption! But the political knave, as well as the interloping Professor, will discover ere long that the Canadian people have a higher ideal of government, and though they may have been as patient under Sir John Macdonald as those of old under him,

"Whose tyrant scourge the passive Roman broke,"

they know how to preserve their liberties and punish tyrants.

Men who look upon government as a practical affair of the first importance, not a machine to be worked in the interests of a clique, plainly perceive that the raising of the Race and Religion cry renders the continuance of Macdonaldite administration impracticable. No party can govern this country that makes the overthrow of a particular form of religion professed by nearly one-half the population, and the subjugation of two such powerful peoples as the French and Irish, the distinguishing features of its policy. The lunacy of this last resort of Toryism furnishes another illustration of the saying which attributes to the Gods a certain mode of procedure in dealing with those they intend to destroy. It is crediting the people with very little wisdom to imagine they are willing to go to war with their neighbors concerning differences of religious faith, because Sir John Macdonald is likely to lose a few seats in Quebec by reason of his ill-treatment of the French half-breeds, or because the Irish vote on account of his opposition to Home Rule.

No matter what happens, the most superficial observer must be convinced that the fear and distrust which the course taken by the organs of the Macdonaldite party has planted in the breasts of large classes, can only be set at rest and future tranquility assured by the expulsion of Sir John Macdonald from power. His defeat will mean the re-establishment of harmony and good will among all classes, peace among the sections in which our population is divided, future tranquility and the preservation of free institutions. These, not religious strife, civil war, the smashing of confederation into its original fragments, will result from the impending change. Viewed from every aspect, that men of common sense, business habits, pru-

dential motives, can take, the overthrow of Macdonaldism appears the grand necessity of the time. The despairing politician who invokes the demons of anarchy to keep himself in office is the personification of an infamy which must be crushed if the country is to be saved. This is not a question for Catholics or Protestants to decide singly. They must unite, as they did in Chambly and Haldimand, in common cause against a party and a leader who would stir them up to enmity, destroy their happiness and ruin their country to gratify his mean ambition.

Somebody has truthfully said that Sir John Macdonald's path through life has been marked by the tombstones of those who believed and trusted him. Does he contemplate that the last monument he will erect shall be over a whole people who have believed and trusted him? His recent conduct would seem to indicate some such purpose. But, we think, that when he comes after the general election to

"Look along the columned years  
And see life's risen fame,"

he will find, written on the door of the legendary tomb closing the dreary avenue the name "Macdonald," not "Canadian Confederation."

Whether the appeal to the people be made now or in a few months hence, the danger which a continuance of his rule implies, the disunion and disaster it is sure to entail, must be avoided by showing him under such an overwhelming storm of ballots that he and his bootlemen, bigots and bribers will never raise their dishonored heads again in the presence of an outraged people.

#### THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Everything points to a speedy dissolution of the House of Commons and an early appeal to the constituencies.

There can be no doubt that this course was decided on by the Ministry as the only means open to them for avoiding the indictment in preparation for presentation should they hold another session.

But the Opposition press and the Liberal leaders, who have been holding meetings throughout the provinces, have laid the questions of the day fully before the people.

The arguments in support of the demand for a change of government are unanswerable. In fact, the ministerial press and speakers have not attempted to answer them, for the simple reason that they are taken from the records of parliament. Never was such a damning record of governmental rascality and imbecility laid before the people. Four words contain the text on which whole volumes exposing the misdeeds of the Government could be written. They are—

Debt!  
Deficit!  
Rebellion!  
Secession!

The state the country has been brought to after eight years of Tory Government is depicted with terrible truth in Mr. Blake's speech delivered at Guelph:—"The situation of our country is such as calls for an earnest struggle. This is the time at which the people exercise in act their power of self-government. This is the time at which they are enabled to decide what shall be their policy, and who shall be their rulers."

"for the long term of five years; and there is much for which to struggle. Look at the situation of our country; weighed down by an enormous debt; loaded with a grinding and unjust taxation; groaning under an appalling expenditure; staggering beneath a tremendous deficit; saddled with railway monopolies, with land monopolies, with manufacturing monopolies; misrepresented through an infamous gerrymandered Act, a vicious Franchise Act and a corrupt disposal of the public resources; misgoverned by an effete and irresponsible Senate, a corrupt and dependent commons, and a false, incompetent, neglectful, and inadequate administration; all the bright promises and glowing predictions with which they guiled us are broken and faded; the pledged term of ten years unexampled pros-

perity hardly opened before its evanescent glory faded into gloom, its expansion became contraction, its exaltation depression."

To this fearful indictment there is no answer. All that the chief organ of the government can find to say is abuse of the Catholic Church, insults to the Irish, threats against the French-Canadians.

It is cheering, however, to know that the end is near. The attempt to raise a religious war, in order to obscure the true issues of the campaign, has failed. The people see that to sustain the Tory party in this outrageous proceeding would be to strike a blow at the peace and prosperity of the country which it would take many years and much suffering to overcome.

But, it is the solemn duty of all men, who desire to keep politics free from the acrimony and danger of sectarian strife, to exert themselves as they never did before to crush this hateful monster of intolerant bigotry. Sir John Macdonald, through his leading organ and his colleagues, has declared war on one-half of the people of Canada. Let him get a counterblast in return that will wither him and his party like a burned scroll, and put a stop forever to the machinations of those who would precipitate a desolating conflict on the country they can no longer plunder with impunity.

We do not appeal to Catholics alone to do their duty at this most important crisis in the history of our country, but to men of all forms of faith who value the liberties we enjoy in common. Attacks made upon the rights of Catholics must recoil upon Protestants, for no class can be injuriously affected without all others suffering. And there is really nothing to justify the onslaught that has been

made on the Catholics. No question has been raised in parliament to indicate that any evil arising from religious differences has disturbed the country of late. No wrong is complained of. All sections of the community are getting along amicably together. Yet we are forced by the incendiary action of the Conservative press and leaders of the Conservative party to put forth our best exertions in defence of religious freedom.

Other questions affecting our national and social welfare demand, and ought to receive, our best attention, but, till the issue forced upon us is decided, we are compelled to give them but scant attention. But we would ask all reasonable men to search the records, not to be led astray by false cries, and deliver judgment against a government that has made corruption a science and would make fanaticism a ruling principle. This country is as much Catholic as it is Protestant, and the two great sections can only get along together by mutual toleration and good will. In reality there is no quarrel between Catholics and Protestants in Canada. The whole cry has been got up by designing Tory partisans, and must be silenced if the country is to be saved from destruction.

#### OUR OTTAWA LETTER.

A Political Quack's "Two Principles"—"Laudamy and Calumny"—How he Applies Them—Boasting Sympathy for the Tories, Biting at Bolsters for the Liberals—Catholic Influence and Toryism—A Fatal Weakness—The Contest at Ottawa—Recruiting the Dandelion Brigade—The Elections.

(From our own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Nov. 12.—Like Jany who set up as a medical practitioner in the Highlands on the strength of the "two principles," the organ of hoodlumdom at Toronto applies exactly the same treatment to politics. The Highland quack's two sheet anchors in all cases were—

"LAUDAMY AND CALUMNY."

So is it with *The Mail*. Its whole political pharmacopoeia consists in the application of "laudamy" to the Tories and "calumny" to the Liberals party. Its diagnosis of all questions is, that the Tories need building up. Therefore it prescribes nourishing diet, good wine, ease, comfort. It must not be worried. Its life is too valuable. Give it copious draughts. There must be no noise. People must not speak too loud. If want; sympathy, care, attention, quiet, or the poor thing will get worse, perhaps die. The chance is too awful for contemplation. Therefore give it lots of laudamy.

AS FOR THE LIBERAL PARTY.

He is a brute, with a stomach like his conscience. Having never abused either, he does not know that such things exist. Our political quack, you see, knows enough of the human subject to be aware that he never discovers that he has a stomach or a conscience till he abuses them. The Liberal party being thus ignorant must be enlightened. It is too robust, too full of blood, too rampant, too energetic, too taking down. Therefore, give it "calumny," *pois aquinum infinitum*. The patient to be well shaken before the doses are taken. And, as the quack declares, if it doesn't cure him, it ought to kill him certain. Singular to say, that while the Tory takes what the doctors order, the Liberal positively kicks and refuses to submit. Nothing daunted, the quack orders a "calumny" plaster *a la Francaise*, a "calumny" bolus of Irish stew, and "calumny" No Popery pills. All to be given daily and continued till further orders.

HERE IS A SPECIMEN OF THE TREATMENT

copied from to-day's *Mail*. Mr. McCarthy, we are bound to assume, is fully conversant with the leading ideas of Catholic Nationality, and the Roman Catholic clergy in Ireland, would treat the minority with scrupulous consideration. Mr. McCarthy will find, however, that the large majority of the Protestant population in Canada, which has had some experience of Roman Catholic rule, is haunted by very grave doubts on that subject.

This is a No Popery Pill. But is it very strange that *The Mail* never discovered the terrible doubts that haunt the Protestants till after it became itself haunted with doubts as to Catholic confidence in Tory Government? If the Catholic Church has become as influential in politics as this organ pretends, it must have gathered its power and secured its immunity under Tory auspices.

UNDER TORY AUSPICES.

and with Tory consent, for Tories have been in possession of the Governments of Ottawa and Quebec with slight interruption for many years. These Governments were practically omnipotent. We have convincing and every tangible proof of their capacity and willingness to do what they pleased. How is it, then, that they never discovered the dangers of Catholic influence in public affairs till now? Why was it that they allowed this institution to usurp prerogatives so dangerous to the State as the *Mail* alleges them to be?

THE ANSWER IS VERY SIMPLE.

Because the Tory party has lost a very considerable portion of the confidence and support which the Catholics of the country heretofore gave it. And so the organ turns round on its former friends, for Catholic Nationality, having nothing but admiration and adulation, and howls about "grave doubts" about Catholics giving Protestants "scrupulous consideration." Ignorant fanatics may be tickled by this sort of writing, but sensible, intelligent people will entertain "grave doubts" of *The Mail's* sincerity, and the party it patronizes. Surely the alleged danger to Protestant liberties was not less great when the majority of Catholics supported the Tories than now that they are supposed to be favorable to the Liberals?

THIS IS THE FATAL WEAK SPOT

in the coat of *Mail* which the Tory party has assumed for the election campaign. But, as a matter of fact, if there be a danger to any one class or party in the country from Catholic influence, it does not arise from Catholic unity as Catholic per se. It arises from the false, wicked, seditious, attempts of the organs of the Macdonaldite party to raise a war of race and religion in order to draw off Protestant support from the Opposition.

If the Church has decided to give its support to the Liberals, it is very strange that it has given no sign to that effect. All the instances of clerical interference that I remember were favorable to the Tories. The French lady of Quebec, have seemingly condemned the party led by Sir John Macdonald, if we may take the late provincial elections as an indication of their sentiments. The Church certainly

HAS NOT INTERFERED.

Similarly the Irish Home Rulers of Canada have turned away from the Tories on account of their opposition to Catholic Nationality. The Church has had nothing to do with this change of feeling. Some ecclesiastics have taken up in themselves a speak concerning the Relief affair, but their words were the reverse of encouraging to the idea provided by *The Mail*.

PREPARING FOR THE PRAY.

Intense activity pervades the Tory ranks in this region. Mr. Mackintosh is busy recruiting the Dandelion Pickers Brigade with men who, as he remarked in a note recommending a man for employment on the Hill, he "may need by-and-by." The very thing of the low, and about all the time "setting up" for the boys and making himself generally

joyful. Mr. P. is also trying his "prentice hand" as a canvasser. But he has a great deal to learn in that business. "Mooching round like a Mormon missionary and a way to capture for one at a time is not the way." Nor is the Panama Canal a burning subject to hold forth upon to an Ottawa audience.

Of course there will be a convention, and Mackintosh knows how to manage that. But, in any case, Perley never dreamed of coming down with the hoodly, he may as well shake up. After all, however, the nomination will go pretty much as Sir John directs. To select Perley would necessitate provision for Mackintosh, and Sir John has enough of played out politicians on hand already.

#### THE ELECTIONS.

Nobody now doubts that the general elections will take place at an early date. The only question is what day will be fixed for the first. Some say it will be before Christmas, others not till the middle of January. I think the latter view more probable, because the interim is too short to allow of preparation by the Tories themselves. Sir John may, however, be riding for a fall. In that case he will not bother himself much about the time. At any rate, his supporters are deeply annoyed at the decision to dissolve. A great many of them know they will be beaten, and they want their sessional allowance and the patronage for another year. The Quebec Tories are particularly savage with Sir John, and talk right out what they feel. But as they have made their bed they must lie on it.

RIDEAU.

#### THE WINTER CARNIVAL.

AN APPEAL TO THE CITIZENS TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS.

\$25,000 Wanted: A Supreme Effort to Make it the Grandest Ever held in Montreal—Classifying the Interests.

The Carnival Committee have set to work energetically on their onerous duties to make the coming Carnival an affair of surpassing grandeur. They invite citizens of all classes—French and English—to give them a cordial and generous support, and with this end in view the following circular was issued yesterday:—

SIR,—The value to Montreal of the winter carnival has been thoroughly established, and the committee appeal with confidence for the means necessary to carry that of 1887 to a successful issue.

The committee feel that it is of the greatest importance to preserve to Montreal the reputation of being the pleasantest winter resort on the continent of America, and to that end a judicious outlay in popular attractions will be capital well invested.

With this object in view, it is estimated that at least \$25,000 will be required to make any appreciable improvement on former efforts; and in order to facilitate the work, the committee venture to classify the interests most affected by the influx of visitors, and ask for the amounts appended, viz:—

Railways, express companies, car-	\$ 5,000
tage companies, etc.	5,000
Hotels and restaurants	1,000
Skating rinks and theatres	1,000
Brewers, distillers and wine mer-	1,500
chants	1,500
Tobacco manufacturers and tobacco-	1,000
nists	1,000
Furriers, etc.	1,500
Dry goods	2,000
Clothing	1,000
Boot and shoe manufacturers, leather	
merchants, trunk manufacturers, etc.	1,000
Grocers, tea merchants, sugar refin-	
ers, etc.	1,000
Millers, grain, produce, butter and	
cheese merchants	1,000
Rolling mills, iron and hardware	
merchants, sewing machine com-	
panies	500
Bakers and confectioners	500
Butchers and fishmongers	500
Jewellers, etc.	500
Paper manufacturers, books and sta-	
tionery, printers, publishers, en-	
gravers, photographers, music and	
pianos	500
Crockery and glassware, merchants	
and furniture manufacturers	250
Chemists and druggists	250
Dentists	250
Liverymen	250
Coal and wood merchants	250
Hairdressers	250
Licensed carter (1000 at \$1 each)	1,000
And of those indirectly benefited it	
is to be hoped that bankers will	
give not less than	1,000
Brokers will give not less than	1,000
Insurance companies will give not	
less than	1,000
Textile and other companies will	
give not less than	1,000
Estimated total	\$30,000

Which, if realized, will place the committee in a position to act with energy, and in a manner worthy the leading city of the Dominion. All citizens are, of course, invited to subscribe; but real estate owners and capitalists, not otherwise reached, are especially requested to aid with their contributions.

The committee also beg to suggest that if each of the above-mentioned interests were to arrange for the purpose of considering and promoting the collection of amounts specified work would be greatly lightened; and in such case, a representative, nominated from each, will be gladly added to the executive committee.

Finally, the passenger agents of the railroads, bearing parties to the carnival, meet in Montreal on the 17th November inst., and it is of paramount importance that the committee know by that time how far subscriptions will justify the programme of attractions.

JOSEPH HICKSON,

President,  
THOS. TRIMBLE,  
Chairman of Finance Committee,  
Montreal, November 11, 1886.

The following is attached to the circular  
Mr. Thomas Trimble, Chairman Finance  
Committee, Montreal, 1887, P.O. box 1718,  
City.

SIR,—You may enter my name as a subscriber to the Carnival fund for 1887 for the sum of

Name,  
Address,  
Mr. Thomas Trimble, secretary of the Finance Committee of the Carnival, in conversation with a reporter, said: "We will endeavor to make the coming Carnival a great success, and we hope to get the residents in East End to join us with enthusiasm. The intention is to place attractions in the East End, and indeed the whole of the city, except the ice palace down town." Victoria square, Jacques d'Armes square will be occupied. We will leave nothing undone to induce the East End people to join us. I feel convinced that the arrangements will satisfy people in the East End that they can do better united to the general committee than if they had a carnival on their own account the same as last time.

#### SUMMER MORNING WALKS AROUND MONTREAL.

##### PART FIFTH.

BY JOHN FRASER, MONTREAL.

No. 29.

Knox's Mills, where we closed our fourth Summer Morning Walk, is about six miles from the city of Montreal, and near by the five mile post on the Lower Lachine road, just before the Lachine Rapids.

The late William James Knox, a young Irish gentleman, possessed of considerable means. About the year 1835, then a member of the firm of Begly, Knox & Co., of Montreal, purchased from the gentlemen of the Seminary of St. Sulpice all the mills and the milling privileges owned by them on the Lachine Rapids.

Besides the Seminary property Mr. Knox purchased the farms of Archibald Ogilvie and William Hannan. He also purchased a part of the priest's or seminary property bordering on the River St. Pierre.

This purchase of the Ogilvie and Hannan farms and the seminary milling property, was made for the purpose of growing flax and for the establishment of mills for the manufacture of linen.

At the time Mr. Knox made these purchases there were in active operation there, Mr. Lachapelle's flour mills, Mr. Weaver's carding, spinning and weaving mills, Mr. Cutler's saw mill and Mr. Goudie's barley and oatmeal mills. These mills then did a large and profitable business.

Somehow or other those parties were all driven from, or, rather, were forced to close up their mills and leave the place. The reason—at the time—assigned for this was Mr. Knox's desire to get rid of them so as to afford him scope or room for his intended flax mills. Be this as it may, they all left—leaving Mr. Knox sole master of the situation to carry out, uncontrolled, his then grand schemes.

These grand schemes all failed! or, rather, were never entered upon, whether this was caused by the disastrous times in commercial circles during the troubles of 1837 and 1838. We know not. But the mills were all closed and the millers all left for other parts, leaving this then promising manufacturing place gradually to fall into decay! and to present to the eye, as it does to-day, nothing but wreck and ruin! A deserted place!

##### COUNTRY VILLA RESIDENCES.

A stranger from the United States remarked one day to the writer that it was singular there were so few villa residences on the Lower Lachine Road, and added—if such a river shore were within ten miles of the city of Boston, it would be laded with new country houses, surrounded with flower gardens and orchards.

Two obstacles have operated against the growth of this river side. The first was, and is, the semi-annual floods, spring and fall, inundating the land as far out—and even farther—than the River St. Pierre. The second was the building of the Grand Trunk Railway, the track of which crosses the road leading out, making a carriage drive a rather dangerous enjoyment at certain hours of the day.

From the two mile up to near the six mile post on the Lower Lachine road is the most inviting spot to select five to ten acre lots on which to build country villas now or at some future date. The bank is sufficiently high and dry, being fully ten to fifteen feet above the highest known floods.

This part of the river bank is not unlike, in height and appearance, the Canadian bank of the Niagara river from Chippewa up to old Fort Erie, and no more charming retreat can be found in the whole of Canada for quiet summer residences than this, having excellent fishing spots; the land, too, is of the best quality for the making of gardens and planting of orchards.

The only drawback at present are the roads, the Grand Trunk track, as above referred to, having interfered with the carriage drive; but the day is coming when a rail track will be laid upon the embankment to be made, up to Knox's mills, thence to connect with the St. Lawrence bridge, three miles further up.

Besides this railway by the river shore, there will sooner or later be made a carriage road on the north bank of the Aqueduct, all the way out to the entrance of the "new inland cut," to connect at the city limits with the Atwater avenue running up to Sherbrooke street. When such connections are made this river front will become the most favorite summer resort for the citizens of Montreal.

##### SAILING UP THE LACHINE RAPIDS.

Most travellers know what a sail down the Lachine Rapids is, and thousands from all parts of the world have, at one time or another, enjoyed such a sail. But to propose a sail up the Rapids would be a novelty, it would be denounced as an impossibility, it would be laughed at; such, however, was of frequent occurrence, a common thing, in the old days of Baateaux and Durham boat sailing up this river shore.

In the old days the Durham boats, when not in too great hurry, moored below the Rapids, waiting for a favorable strong easterly wind to hoist their sails to sail upwards. And the writer has it upon the authority of Mr. Alexander Somerville, who was born opposite the Rapids in 1812, and still lives there, to state that he had often seen as many as a dozen Durham boats pass up in one day under sail and continue their course up to Lake St. Louis, except such as them as had to call at the King's Posts to complete their cargo.

##### SHAD FISHING.

Shad fish may not be a novelty, but shad fishing would be to most of our readers. About four acres above the Knox Mills, directly in front of the Somerville House, is the spot where the shad is caught, not killed, —the term which most people use now a days for catching fish; we presume to say that when fish are taken by a line and hook or by a net, they are caught—not killed; but when speared or shot, as some people do with their rifles—they are then "killed."

The shad pass up here within ten to fifteen feet from the shore, during the first week of June, some years a week earlier or later. The fishermen, the Frenchmen living along the river front, watch the time of the passing up of the shad; then with their nets, made of twine—somewhat in the shape of a two-bushel bag, fixed on poles about ten feet long, take their position, standing to about their waists in the water, and make a sweep of their nets, immersing them so that they reach the bottom, scooping along down with the stream, then hauling in, sometimes empty, at times one, two and three; we have seen six taken in one haul. This is unusual.

The passing up of the shad was first noticed about ninety years ago, in 1798. They were then noticed by the people living near by. The shad then passing up was so great that the fish forced themselves out and above the water. They would not take the hook, and pull and tubs, etc., were used to catch them.

It is said that one man alone caught nine hundred in one day, but two to three hundred was a common day's catch. We have known them in a plentiful season to be sold as low as two dollars for one hundred fish. This was in the old time. The question is: Where do these fish go? Far up the river and lakes? We have never heard of shad being taken further up than this point. They certainly have a season—a set time to return to the ocean—when they came!

By the way, we found the old fishermen this year bitterly complaining by being compelled to take out a license to fish. This should not be! They have had this right undisturbed for one hundred years! And, again, the Seminary of St. Sulpice when selling their property, provided in the deed of sale that the right of fishing should not be interfered with.

##### THE SOMERVILLE HOMESTEAD.

The Somerville Homestead is close by the five mile post. The late James Somerville died about a quarter of a century ago. He was widely known all over Lower Canada and highly esteemed for his intelligence. He was a well read man; there was hardly a subject of the day but he was familiar with. He was at home in the history of this country and of his native land, Scotland. He was one of the Government Appraisers of Lower Canada. Peace to his memory!

##### THE 2ND COMPANY OF THE LACHINE BRIGADE.

We had almost forgotten to note that it was in the Somerville House the second company of the Lachine Brigade was organized, being the first "new company" of volunteers to receive their arms during the Rebellion of 1837. This was on the first Monday in November, 1837. The neighboring farmers and farm servants met there that day. The farm servants were mostly composed of Irish Roman Catholics, being then in the employ of the late Charles Fenner.

Thomas A. Begly, an Irish Catholic, afterwards secretary of the Board of Works, was then manager of the Knox mills, was proposed by Mr. Somerville and the other officers of the militia to be the Captain of this new company. This was accepted by the Irish laborers as a special compliment to them. The men marched to town (Montreal) the next day and received their arms. The writer joined this company, and he believes himself to be the only living member of it, unless Mr. Begly be still living.

##### IKERON'S ISLAND.

This island is in the middle of the Rapids opposite Verdun; it can be reached by water at its lower end.

The thought struck us as we passed, of which we made a note, that this island would be a suitable place for the manufacture of explosives, such as gun powder, dynamite, &c. It would also be a safe place for the storage of such material, far away from farm buildings and farm houses. It is midway in the St. Lawrence, and the water power in and around it could be utilized for any such manufactures, therefore, we throw out this hint.

##### THE DEVIL'S ISLAND.

This island is in the roughest part of the Rapids and can only be reached from the Lachine shore when the Rapids are frozen over, or rather jammed up. This seldom happens. The last time we remember was about thirty years ago. We then saw three venturesome young men, namely, James Somerville, Richard Robinson and Daniel Garmichael, (the latter two are now dead) run over to the island. They were thankful to get back, but really terrified at the risk they had run. The ice bridge gave way half an hour after their return! They described the island as cold and as barren as "Greenland's" icy mountains, having none of the warmth associated with the fiery abode of His Satanic Majesty!

##### THE LA SALLE COMMON.

It is recorded in history that Robert de la Salle—then seigneur of Lower Lachine (about 1686)—had set apart 420 acres of land for a homestead for himself, we refer our readers to our account of the Canadian Home of Robert de la Salle, which has been printed in most of the papers of Canada. He also set apart 200 acres of land, near his home, as a common. The eastern boundary of this common was just where the six mile post now stands. It had a frontage on the river of about three-quarters of a mile, between the six mile post and the entrance of the new inland cut of the Montreal Water Works.

This common ran back to a narrow point to the high land in the rear