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R. W. McL.

THE WAR OF 1812.

A REVIEW BY J. M. LEMOINE.



AMIDST the various episodes of our colonial history one of the most prominent is the conflict between our neighbors and our mother-country, Great Britain. Of this memorable trouble the right of searching American ships on the high seas for English deserters was the plausible pretext ; we dare scarcely say the real cause. The times were favorable for those who owed England no love. In 1810, a formidable—a deadly feud existed between France and England ; English commerce and English ships, it was thought, would be surely reached by the blockade of the Baltic ports. For Canada, this high measure, became a boon—Canada spruce, oak, pine, became much sought after. Hence the origin of the gigantic timber trade of to-day. The war of 1812 temporarily interrupted this source of colonial wealth, our timber trade ; it sprang up after the proclamation of peace more vigorous than ever. Documents calculated to throw additional light on this momentous contest must be very welcome to every Canadian. With a view of furthering this end, the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec has just issued the first part of a historical compilation embracing the most important despatches, proclamations, newspaper accounts of naval and land engagements, from American as well as from an English point of view, dispersed in the columns of Nelson's *Gazette* for 1807-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15. Such are the materials for history, constituting the new volume of 150 pages, just