

Their heroic fortitude under the unparalleled sufferings and privations which they and their families endured in leaving their comfortable homes for a life in the distant wilderness has left their memory dear to all British Americans, while the unrelenting severity of the acts for their perpetual banishment and confiscation of their property, which were passed by the several states which they had left, inflicted deep and unmerited wrongs upon young and old alike, and doomed them to years of privation and hardships in a new and unsettled country. Of the 25,000 American Colonists, who at the close of the war remained faithful to the British cause, 10,000 came to Canada, about the same number went to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and other Colonies, and the remainder to England.

As compensation for part of their losses the British Government distributed among them about £3,300,000 stg. and in addition each one received as a free gift from the Crown from 200 to 5,500 acres of land in Canada and other Colonies according to their military rank and service. Some of the more prominent amongst them were appointed to offices of emolument. By their labor and exemplary thrift and industry they have largely contributed to the prosperity and stability of the British American Colonies.

THE WAR OF 1812-14.

For several years before the declaration of hostilities, affairs between the United States and England had been in a very unsatisfactory condition, owing chiefly to the persistent claim of the British Government to the "Right of Search" for British naval deserters in American vessels, and the prohibition by Great Britain of neutral vessels to trade with France, which England passed in retaliation for the Milan and Berlin Decrees of Napoleon. The immediate cause of the war, however, was the publication of a number of letters written by a Captain Henry, merely as a private speculation, to Governor Craig's Secretary, in which an inclination on the part of the New England States to ally themselves with Great Britain was alleged. These letters, for which President Madison paid the enterprising writer \$500,000, were accepted as the evidence of the secret machinations of the latter country. They produced the desired result, and war was declared on the 18th