

LOVE MEMORIES.

Fair languid flower, that leant on thy stem
As though thy heart were heavy, and full and
For all its sweetness; thou with fragrance clad
Seem'st as a queen tired of her diadem,
Whose eyes grow weary of such diadem
That may not bend, and never maketh glad
Her love-lorn heart: thy sweetness cannot add
Strength to thy soul to cheat Love's requiem.

Ah me, another fairer flower I know,
Whose form may haply droop or languid lean,
If thoughts of other days their shadows throw,
Or memory points to some forgotten scene;
Ah, dost thou droop, dear flower? Nay, say not so;
Forget, regret not, that it might have been.

S. WASHINGTON.

A HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE
STREETS OF QUEBEC.

By the Author of "Album du Touriste, &c."

"You never tread upon them but you see
Your feet about some ancient history."

(Continued from our last.)

"Prince Edward St., St. Roch, and "Donnacona" street, near the Ursulines, bring up the memory of two important personages of the past, the Duke of Kent—an English Prince, and Donnacona, a swarthy chief of primitive Canada.

The vanquisher of Montcalm, General Wolfe, is honored not only by a statue, at the corner of Palace and St. John's Streets, (1) sculptured (in wood) by the brothers Chantrelle, in 1771, at the request of George Hips, butcher, but again by the street which bears his name, Wolfe Street. In like manner, his illustrious rival Montcalm, claims an entire section of the city—"Montcalm Ward." Can it be that the susceptible young Captain of the "Albemarle," Horatio Nelson, carried on his flirtation with the captivating Miss Prentice, in 1782, in the street which now bears his name? Several streets in the St. Louis, St. John, and St. Roch Suburbs, bear the names of eminent citizens who have, at different periods, made a free gift of the sites or, who, by their public spirit, have left behind them a cherished memory among the people. Messrs. Berthelot, D'Artigny, Givry, Stewart, T. C. Lee, Bateau, Hudon, Smith, Salaberry, Scott, Tonnangeau, Fover, Panet, Bell, Robitaille, Ryland, St. Ours.

The width of the greater number of the street of the city vary from thirty to forty feet; the broadest is Crown St. Well do the proprietors deserve our congratulations for the beautiful shade trees which they have caused to be there planted.

Quebec comprises about ten small *Fiefs* or *Dominions*. The *Fief Sault-au-Matelot* (the Sault's leap) belongs to the Seminary. The Ursulines, the Church (*Fabrique*), the Heirs La Rue, the Hotel-Dieu, the Recollets' Friars, each had its *Fief*. The Church possesses a *Dominion* besides that of Cape Diamond. The *Fief de la Misericorde*, (Mercy), belongs to the Hotel-Dieu. The Heirs La Rue possess the *Fief de Beauport*, and that of *De Villeneuve*; there is also the *Fief Saxeville*. The "Fief of the Recollets" now belongs to the Crown.

St. Roch owes a debt of gratitude to Montcalm de Saint-Valier, whose name is identified with the street which he so often perambulated in his visits to the General Hospital, where he terminated his useful career. His Lordship seems to have entertained a particular attachment for the locality where he had founded this hospital. Subsequently, came the *Intendant de Meulles* who, towards 1684, endowed the eastern portion of the quarter with an edifice (the *Intendant's Palace*), remarkable for its dimensions, its magnificence and its ornamented gardens.

Where Talon (a former *Intendant*) had left a brewery in a state of ruin and about seventeen acres of land unoccupied, Louis XIV., by the advice of his *Intendant de Meulles*, lavished vast sums of money in the erection of a sumptuous palace in which French Justice was administered and in which, at a later period, under Bigot, it was *purchaseable*. Our illustrious ancestors, for that matter, were not the kind of men to weep over such trifles, imbued as they were from infancy with the feudal system and all its intricate duties, without forgetting the forced labour (*corvées*), and those admirable "Royal Secret-warrants," (*lettres de cachet*), which, according to *P. Abbe Faillon* might, when required, overtake even the clergy. What did the institutions of a free people, the text of *Magna Charta* signify to them?

On this spot stood the notorious warehouse, where Bigot, Cadet and other worthies retailed, at enormous profits, the provisions and supplies which King Louis XV. doled out in 1758, to the starving inhabitants of Quebec. The people christened the house "La Friponne," (*The Knave*)! Near the site of Talon's old brewery (which had been converted into a prison in 1684, by *Frontenac* and which held fast until his trial the *Abbe de Fenelon*, (2) now stands the "Anchor Brewery." (Boswell's.)

Doubtless to the eyes of the "Free and Inde-

pendent Electors" of La Vacherie in 1759, the *Intendant's Palace* seemed a species of "Eighth Wonder." The "Eighth Wonder" lost much of its *relat*, however, by the inauguration of English rule in 1759, but a total eclipse came over this imposing and majestic luminary, when Guy Carleton's guns from the ramparts of Quebec, began, in 1775, to thunder on its cupola and roof, which offered a shelter to Arnold's soldiery; the rabble of "shoe-makers, hatters, blacksmiths and inn-keepers," (says Caldwell), bent on providing Canada with the blessings of republicanism. We have just mentioned "La Vacherie," this consisted of the extensive and moist pastures at the foot of *Coteau Sainte Genevieve*, towards the General Hospital where the City cows were grazed; on this site and gracing the handsome streets "Crown," "Craig" and "Desfosses," can be now seen elegant dry-goods stores vying with the largest in the Upper Town. Had St. Peter street, in 1775, been provided with a regular way of communication with St. Roch; had St. Paul street then existed, the sun of progress would have shone there nearly a century earlier. "For a considerable time past, several plans of amelioration of the City of Quebec," says the *Abbe Ferland*, "were proposed to the ministry by *M. de Meulles*. The absolute necessity of obtaining a desirable locality for the residence of the *Intendant*, and for the holding of the Sessions of the Council, the *Chateau Saint Louis* being hardly sufficient to afford suitable quarters for the Governor and the persons who formed his household, *M. de Meulles* proposed purchasing a large stone building which *M. Talon* had caused to be erected for the purpose of a brewery and which, for several years, had remained unoccupied. Placed in a very commodious position on the bank of the river St. Charles, and not many steps from the Upper Town, this edifice with suitable repairs and additions, might furnish not alone a desirable residence for the *Intendant*, but also, halls and offices for the Supreme Council and the Courts of Justice, as likewise, vaults for the archives, and a prison for the criminals." "Adjacent to the old Brewery, *M. Talon* owned an extent of land of about seventeen superficial acres of which no use was made in *M. de Meulles*' plan; a certain portion of this land could be reserved for the gardens and dependencies of the *Intendant's Palace*, whilst the remainder might be partitioned off into building lots (*emplacements*) and thus convert it into a second lower town and which might some day, be extended to the foot of the Cap. He believed that if this plan were adopted the new buildings of Quebec would extend in that direction and not on the heights almost exclusively occupied by the Religious Communities." (1)

We perceive according to Mr. Panet's Journal that Saint Roch existed in 1759, that the women and children, residents of that quarter were not wholly indifferent to the fate of their distressed country. "The same day, (31st July, 1759)," says Panet, "we heard a great uproar in the St. Roch quarters, the women and children were shouting, 'Long live the King!'" (2) "I ascended the height on the *Coteau Ste. Genevieve* and there beheld the first frigate all in a blaze, very shortly afterwards, a black smoke issuing from the second which blew up and afterwards took on fire." On the 4th August, several bomb-shells of 80, fell on Saint Roch. We read that on the 31st August, two soldiers were hanged at three o'clock in the afternoon for having stolen a cask of brandy from the house of one Charland, in the Saint Roch quarter. In those times the General or the Recorder, did not do things by halves. Who was this Charland of 1759? Could he be the same who sixteen years afterwards, fought so stoutly together with Dambourges at the Sault-au-Matelot engagement? Since the inauguration of the English domination, Saint Roch became peopled in a most rapid manner; we now see there a network of streets embracing in extent several leagues.

The most ancient highway of the quarter (St. Roch), is probably Saint Valier street. "Desfosses" street most likely derives its name from the ditches (*fosses*) which served to drain the green pastures of *La Vacherie*. The old Bridge street dates from the end of the last century. "Dorchester" street recalls the esteemed and popular administrator Lord Dorchester, who, under the name of Guy Carleton, led on to victory the militia of Quebec in 1775.

"Craig" street received its name from Sir James Craig, a gouty, testy old soldier, who administered the Government in 1807; it was enlarged and widened by ten feet after the great fire of 1845. The site of St. Paul's Market was acquired from the Royal Ordinance, on 31st July, 1831.

"Dorchester" Bridge was constructed in 1822. Saint Joseph street, Saint Roch, which at one period, had a width of only twenty-five feet, was widened to the extent of forty, through the liberality of certain persons. From this circumstance, the corporation was induced to continue it beyond the city limits up to the road which leads to Lorette, thereby rendering it the most useful and one of the handsomest streets of Saint Roch.

At what period did the most spacious street of the ward, ("Crown" street, sixty feet in width), receive its baptismal name? Most assuredly, it was previous to 1837, the era of Papineau. "King" street, no doubt, recalls the reign of George the III. So also does "Queen" street.

(1) Vol. 2, p. 140.

(2) Louis XV.

Towards the year 1815, the late Honorable John Richardson, of Montreal, conferred his name on the street which intersects the grounds which the Crown had then conceded to him, for the heirs of the late William Grant, late Receiver General who, likewise, bequeathed his name to a street adjacent. A Mr. Henderson (1) about the commencement of the present century, possessed grounds in the vicinity of the present gas works, hence we have "Henderson" street.

The Gas Company's Wharf is built on the site of the old jetty of which we have seen mention made about 1720. This long pier was composed of large boulders heaped one upon the other, and served the purpose of sheltering the landing place at the *Palais* from the north-east winds. In 1815, Colonel Bouchette, says it was a promenade pretty well frequented. In the present day, the prolongation of the wharf has left no trace of it.

"Church" street (la rue de l'Eglise), doubtless owes its name to the erection of the beautiful Saint Roch Church, towards 1812, the site of which was given by the late Honorable John Mure, who died in Scotland in 1823. We lack space to describe more at length a vast number of localities,—of streets and buildings in Saint Roch. We shall conclude these hasty notes with a few topographical details.

Saint Roch, like the Upper Town, comprises several *Fiefs*, proceeding from the *Fief* of the Seminary and reaching as far as the Gas Wharf; the beaches with the right of fishing, belonged originally to the Hotel-Dieu by a concession dated the 21st March, 1648, but they have been conceded to others. The Crown possesses an important reserve towards the west of this grant; then comes the grant made, in 1814 or 1815, to the heirs William Grant, now occupied by several ship-yards. Jacques Cartier, who, in 1535-6, wintered in the vicinity of Saint Roch, gave his name to an entire municipal division of this rich suburb as well as to a spacious market hall.

Let us descend that ancient and tortuous Lower Town Hill which has re-echoed the tread of so many regiments, in which so many Governors, French and English have, on divers occasions, heard themselves enthusiastically cheered by gaping crowds, the hill which viceroys of France and of England, from the ostentatious Marquis de Tracy to the proud Earl of Durham, ascended on their way to the *Chateau Saint Louis*, surrounded by their brilliant staffs and saluted by cannon and with warlike flourish of trumpets! Here we stand on the principal artery of the commerce of the ancient city, Saint Peter street, having a width of only twenty-four feet. St. Peter street is probably more ancient than its sister *Sault-au-Matelot* street.

The site on which the "Quebec Bank" (2) was erected in 1863, there stood the offices, the vaults and the wharf of the well-known merchant John Lymburner. There were three Lymburners: John, lost at sea in the fall of 1775; Mathew, and Adam, the most educated of the three; they were, no doubt, related to each other. The loyalty of Adam, towards the British Crown, in 1775, was more than suspected, his oratorical powers, however, and his knowledge of constitutional law, made him a fit delegate to England in pleading the cause of the colony before the Metropolitan authorities. His speech on the occasion is reported in the *Canadian Review*, published at Montreal in 1826.

Colonel Caldwell mentions that, in 1775, the Governor, Guy Carleton, had ordered a cannon to be pointed on the wharf on which stood Lymburner's house, with the intention to open fire upon the Bostonians should they attempt a surprise on the *Sault-au-Matelot* quarter. Massive and strongly built stone vaults (probably of French origin) are still extant beneath the house adjoining to the south of this last, belonging to the heirs Atkinson.

On the site of the offices of Mr. McGie, stood in 1759, the warehouse of M. Perrault; from a great number of letters and invoice-bills found in the garret, and which an antiquary (3) has placed at our disposal, it would seem that M. Perrault had extensive commercial relations both in Canada and in France.

St. Peter street has become the general headquarters of the most important commerce, life assurance and fire assurance offices; the financial institutions, are there proudly enthroned—the Bank of Montreal, Bank of Quebec, The Union Bank, the *Banque Nationale*, the *Stadacona Bank*, the Bank of British North America.

(1) This gentleman (Mr. William Henderson), was for many years Secretary of the "Quebec Fire Assurance Company." I believe he is still living and that he resides at Frampton, in the county of Dorchester, P. Q. (C. A.)

(2) Thanks to Mr. J. B. Mariel, Secretary of the Harbour Commission, Quebec, we may designate in few words the site which the Quebec Bank now possesses. This extent of ground, (at that period a beach lot), was conceded to the Seminary by the *Marquis de Denonville* in 1687, and confirmed by the King the 1st March, 1688. The 25th August 1750, *Messire Christophe de Lalane, Directeur du Seminaire des Missions Etrangeres a Paris*, made a concession of it to Mons. Nicholas René Le Vasseur, *Intendant*, formerly chief contractor of the ships of "His Most Christian Majesty," the 24th June, 1760. A deed of sale of this same property to Joseph Brassard Deschevaux, consisting of a two story house and a wharf (avec les peintures au-dessus de la porte.) The 8th September, 1764, a deed of sale to Alexander McKenzie, purchase money \$5,800. The 19th April, 1768, Joseph Deschevaux assigned his mortgage to Mr. John Lymburner. On the 11th August, 1781, a deed of concession of the beach in the rear, to low water mark, by the Seminary to Adam Lymburner. The 5th November, 1796, a deed of sale by the attorney of Adam Lymburner. Subsequently, Angus Shaw, became the proprietor in consideration of \$4,100. On the 17th October 1825, a judicial sale to Henry Atkinson, Esq.

(3) M. D. A. R.

In this street resided, in 1774, the Captain Bouchette who in the following year, in his vessel "Le Gaspé," despite of the Yankees, brought us back our brave Governor, Guy Carleton; M. Bouchard, merchant; M. Panet, N.P., (the father of His Lordship Bishop B. C. Panet), as also M. Boucher, harbor master of Quebec, (who was appointed to that post by the Governor Sir R. S. Milnes, on the recommendation of the Duke of Kent). Boucher had piloted the vessel, (having on board the 7th Regiment), from Quebec to Halifax.

The office in which the *Quebec Morning Chronicle* has been published since 1847, belonged, in 1759, to M. Jean Taché, "President of the Mercantile Body," "an honest and sensible man" as appears by *Mémoires sur le Canada*, (1749-60). One of our first poets, he composed a poem "On the Sea." He is the ancestor of the late Sir E. P. Taché, of the novelist Marmette, &c. He possessed, moreover, at that period, extensive buildings on the Napoleon wharf, which were destroyed by fire in 1845, and a house in the country, on the Ste. Foye road, afterwards called "Holland House."

The (Chronicle) building, during nearly half a century, was a coffee house, much frequented by sea-faring men, known as the "Old Neptune" Inn. The effigy of the Sea-God, armed with his formidable Trident, placed over the main entrance, seemed to threaten the passers by. We can remember, as yesterday, his colossal proportions. "Old Neptune" has disappeared within the last thirty years.

Parallel with St. Peter street, runs *Notre Dame* street, which leads us to the little church of the Lower Town, named *Notre Dame de la Victoire*, in remembrance of the victory achieved in 1690, on the then besieger Sir Wm. Phipps. This church was at a later period, called "*Notre Dame des Victoires*," in commemoration of the dispersion of Admiral Walker's squadron in 1711. The corner of this street (St. Peter and Sous-le-Fort streets) is probably the site of the walks and garden plots where Champlain cultivated roses and flowers about the year 1615.

Fronting the church of "*Notre Dame des Victoires*" and on the site now occupied as Blanchard's Hotel, the Ladies of the Ursulines, in 1639, found a refuge in an humble residence, a sort of shop or store, owned at that period by the *Sieur Jachereau des Chatelets*, at the foot of the path (*scatier*), leading up to the mountain (foot of Mountain street), and where the then Governor M. de Montmagny, as is related, sent them their first meal.

The locality possessed other traditions of agreeable memory; the good, the youthful, the beautiful *Madame de Champlain*, about the year 1620, catechised and instructed, under the shadow of the trees, the young Huron Indians in the principles of Christianity. History relates their surprise and joy on seeing their features reflected in the small mirror which their benefactress wore suspended at her side according to the then prevailing custom.

In 1682, a conflagration broke out in the Lower Town which, besides the numerous vaults and stores, reduced into ashes a considerable portion of the buildings. At a later period "*Notre Dame de la Victoire*" (church) was built on part of the ruins. Let us open the second volume of the "*Cours d'Histoire du Canada*," by the *Abbe Ferland*, and let us read "Other ruins existed (in 1684) in the commercial centre of the Lower Town; these ruins consisted of blackened and delapidated walls. Champlain's old warehouse which, from the hands of the Company ("*Compagnie de la Nouvelle France*"), had passed in those of the King (Louis), had remained in the same state as when left after the great fire which, some years previously, had devastated the Lower Town."

In 1684, M. de Laval obtained this site or *emplacement* from M. de Labarre for the purpose of erecting a supplementary chapel for the use of the inhabitants of the Lower Town. This gift, however, was ratified only a little later, in favor of M. de St. Valier, in the month of September 1685. Messieurs de Denonville and de Meulles caused a clear and plain title or patent of this locality to be issued for the purpose of erecting a church which, in the course of time, was built by the worthy Bishop and named "*Notre Dame de la Victoire*." The landing for small craft, in the vicinity of the old market (now the Finlay (1) Market,) no doubt derived its name, "*La Place*" from the adjacent site in front of the church of *Notre Dame*, known as "*La place de Notre Dame*."

It is in this vicinity, (a little to the west,) under the silent shade of a wood near the garden which Champlain had laid out, that the historical interview which saved the colony took place. The secret was of the greatest importance; — it is not to be wondered at if Champlain's loyal Pilot, Captain Testu, deemed it proper to conduct the founder of Quebec and privily draw him aside into the neighbouring wood and disclose to him the villainous plot which one of the accomplices, Antoine Natel, locksmith, had first disclosed to him under the greatest secrecy. The chief of the conspiracy was one Jean du Val who had come to the country with Champlain.

(1) William Finlay, an eminent merchant of Quebec, and one of its chief benefactors, made several bequests which the City authorities invested in the purchase of this market. Mr. Finlay died at the Island of Madeira, whether he had gone for his health, about the year 1831.

J. M. LEMOINE.

(To be continued.)