

dians made a *portage*, up to a point where the river was again navigable. The expedition then continued its march without incident, till one lovely summer morning, its canoes shot into the clear waters of Lake Champlain. After traversing this fine sheet of water, throughout its whole length, discovering Lake St. Sacrament, now called Lake George and giving battle to the Mohawks, at the promontory of Carillon or Ticonderoga, the great traveller returned to Quebec, by the same route through which he had gone.

With the progress of the Colony, the valley of the Richelieu was rapidly settled and soon became the garden of Lower Canada. Many of the best families among the Colonists, chose it as their residence. The St. Ours, the Duchesnays, the Deschambeaults, the Rouvilles and others obtained vast grants of land on its banks, thus founding the Seigniories which still bear their names.

The Richelieu is 80 miles in length, and bridged at five places. There are twelve miles of canal from St. Johns to Chambly. There is also a dam at St. Ours.

Its original name was Iroquois River and its present title is derived from an old fort built on the present site of Sorel, by M. de Montmagny. It was meet that while Lake Champlain preserves the memory of its discoverer, the beautiful river which flows from it, should bear the name of the great French Cardinal who did so much for the families settled on its banks.

I.—ISLE-AUX-NOIX.

The first point of interest on the Richelieu is Isle-aux-Noix. A low-lying island, commanding the mouth of Lake Champlain, and situate on the frontier between the United States and Canada, it is admirably well chosen as a site for fortified works. Its name is derived from the profusion of hazel bushes and walnut woods, that stood there when the French first occupied and fortified it. This was in 1759, during their first war with the British Colonies of New England and New