


Quebec and its surroundings.

URING the summer just passed it was my good fortune to be transferred from Ottawa to the ancient capital of Canada, Quebec. Although my stay was very brief, I made the most of my time, visiting places of interest to all Canadians,—the Plains of Abraham, Wolfe's Cove, Montmorency Falls, Ste. Anne de Beaupre, and others of less importance.

Quebec is rightly called the cradle of Canadian history, for there first came French Canada, or New France, then the English forces, and it changed to British North America, and later on to Lower Canada. All these alterations left indelible marks on the brow of old Quebec. The Citadel, the old French earthworks at Montmorency, the Plains of Abraham, the lines of fortifications along the river, all tended to work changes on the landscape around Quebec.

At Quebec were made treaties with the savage Indians. Warring generals met to draw up agreements of peace or war which meant the making or unmaking of a nation. There was the first bishop of Canada, the saintly Laval, with his pioneer band of priests and holy men and women coming to fight the good fight for the Faith of Rome and France. The now famous University of Laval had its humble beginning under the leadership of Bishop Laval, and its present position stands as a living monument to his greatness. Within the walls of this institution of learning are priceless relics of holy men who gave up their lives for the Faith. Bones of martyrs who fell under the cruel swing of the savage tomahawk, are carefully stored away in the chapels. The vestments of the Holy Bishop are kept locked away for safe keeping, being exhibited only on special occasions. The stole of St. Charles Borromeo lies reverently encased in a glass cabinet, and on the walls hang pictures by Van Dyke, Raphael, and other famous painters. These works of art are worth a fortune in themselves, and tempting offers by the opulent art gatherers have been refused. In fact the institution is teeming with art treasures, souvenirs, and historical relics impossible to be duplicated.

The surrounding country offers a very wide field for tourists' pleasure trips, and is taken advantage of every season by thou-