

THE RAMBLER.

anchored in the stream. This meant war: life or death to the alarmed denizens of the beleaguered citadel.

But what was Quebec in 1690? Champlain's cherished settlement of 1608 had had time to expand, increasing in population as well as growing stronger as a military post.

Its first residents, 'tis true, had long been gathered to their fathers; the old Scotchman, Abraham Martin—King's pilot; that universal genius, the land surveyor, Jean Bourdon; the trusty apothecary, Louis Herbert, first settler in the upper town; Guillaume Couillard, patron of the Basilica; the hardy and skilful interpreter, Nicholas Marsolet, Jean Nicolet, were no more, but they had left families, sons and many grandsons, great-grandsons innumerable. By the influx of colonists from Normandy, Brittany, Perche, etc., the population had increased to 1,500 souls. When Champlain left Quebec on the arrival of Capt. Kerk in 1629, 22 persons, viz., 7 men, 8 women and 7 children, constituted the French population of Quebec.

Talon and Hocquart, ablest of Intendants, had, with the help of the wise Colbert, been the avowed promoters of colonization, commerce, manufactures, ship-building, in the Great Louis' pet colony. The higher grades of education had been cared for—some think even too much: the Jesuits College founded in 1635; the *Seminaire des Missions Etrangères*, created in 1663, the *Petit Séminaire* in 1668. Well regulated conventual institutions, fostered by pious noble French ladies, taught the young idea to shoot, whilst a progressive but absolute ecclesiastic, of noble birth (Monsignor de Laval-Montmorency), had taken charge of the church and of religious foundations. The colony flourished, though a species of close borough to outsiders and despite monopolies and absolutism.

Another marked increase to the census soon took place after the disbanding and settling in Canada of the famous French regiment brought over from France, in 1665, by the pompous Marquis of Tracy; the Carignan-Salières Regiment formed by the Prince of Carignan and commanded by the dashing Col. de Salières. The King promised extensive tracts of land on the shores of the St. Lawrence to the officers who would found families in Canada. Hence, the origin of the French Seigniories granted to French officers, several of whom hailed from the titled gentry of France. In many instances, their names were bequeathed to their broad acres, and are borne by them to this day; such as Capts. Saint Ours, de Berthier, de Sauré, de Contre Cœur, la Valtrie, de Meloises, Tardieu de la Perade, de la Foulle, Maximin, Lobian, Petit, Rougemont, Traverty, de La Motte, La Combe, de Vereheres, whilst their gallant troopers, allured to settle in Canada by grants of land and farm stock from the Government, were not slow in falling in love with the lively bright-eyed *Josettes* of Quebec and Montreal. Soon, says an old chronicle, the parish priest had his hands full, with marriages, and, in due time, with christenings. Many of these patriarchal families could successfully, in after years, have claimed Col Rhodes' premium of 100 acres for the twelfth child.

Social intercourse at Quebec in 1690, though on a limited scale, was apparently of good form, according to reliable writers. Charlevoix, who wrote the history of the colony, in 1720, a contemporary historian, speaks in high terms of the French societies of that and previous periods: "Manners were refined, no boorishness, the language spoken, pure, and no accent perceptible in the families, they were strong and well formed, the daughters lively and handsome."

"Quebec in 1690, says Dr. N. E. Devonne, had its Governor. The chief of his staff was Philippe Rigaud de Vaudreuil; the Intendant, a man of distinction, was Bochart de Champigny. The city had a Sovereign Council, Court of *Prévôté*, a Court of Admiralty, a Commissary of Marine, Overseer of Public Roads, *Grand Voyer*, two bishops, Jesuits, Friars, Ursuline and *Hospitalières* nuns, secular priests, notaries, physicians, bailiffs, architects, and even a public hangman.

"The administration of New France was carried on by a Council, of which all the members resided in Quebec. It consisted of the Governor, of the Bishop, of the Intendant, of several Councillors, and of a Royal Attorney (*Procureur du roi*). It was composed of Louis Rouer de Villaray, the friend of the Bishop, an avowed partisan of the Jesuits; consequently, no friend of the old Governor. Another man of mark at the Council Board was Matthew d'Amour, Sieur de Neuville, Charles le Gardeur du Tilly and Charles Denis de Vitre."

Among the men of mark at Quebec, in 1690, may be mentioned the King's Attorney-General, F. M. F. Ruette d'Auteuil, Claude de Bernier, sieur de la Martinière, judge and lieutenant-civil; Charles de Monseignat, secretary of Frontenac and the author of a full account of what took place at Quebec in 1690; Pierre Becart, Sieur de Granville, who had been taken prisoner by Phips, near Murray Bay, where he had been sent to watch the New England fleet. Jacques Petit de Verneuil, George Regnard du Plessis, Treasurer of the Marine; Paul Dupuis, Seigneur of Goose Island (*procureur du Roi en la prévôté*), and for years the pious Seigneur of the Island, and father

of fifteen children; he was reputed to be a saint. In such a haunt of game, his sons must have been ardent sportsmen, one would imagine.

Michel le Neuf, Sieur de la Vallière et de Beaubassin. Jean Baptiste Couillard de l'Espinay, Lieutenant of the Admiralty; René Chartier de Lotbinière, Lieutenant of the *Prévôté*; François *Prévôt*, Major et Commandant of the Castle; Augustin Rouer, Sieur de Cardonnière; Pierre de la Lande, Sieur de Gayon; Gervais Beaudoin, Physician to the Ursuline Nuns; Timothy Roussel, Physician to the Hôtel-Dieu Nuns; Louis Chambalon appointed, later on, a Royal Notary; Etienne Dubreuil, Notary to Quebec Seminary.

The numerous class of merchants, some of whom traded with the West Indies, were represented by Charles Perthuis, Charles Aubert de la Chenaye, François Hazeur, Denis Riverin, François Viennay Pachot, Guillaume Bouthier, Jean Sebillé, Nicolas Volant, Jean Gobin, Pierre Têtu du Tilly, Raymond du Bosc, Simon Soumande, Charles Macart, Denis Roberge and a number of others. Dr. N. E. Dionne, author of a prize essay on Jacques Cartier, from whom I have borrowed these details, has added a tableau of the men of mark in Quebec, in 1690, a portion of which I subjoin.*

The fortifications of Quebec, though of a rudimentary nature, in 1690, had been much improved by the new works of defences and palisades ordered by Count Frontenac in the spring, on the north-western, unprotected side of the town, towards the Ste. Foye road and plains of Abraham; though no guns were placed on the summit of Cape Diamond commanding the town until 1693. Town Major *Prevost* in the absence of Frontenac, then in Montreal, had very judiciously pushed on vigorously to completion these new works, and placed in position batteries wherever he could. "The cliffs along the St. Lawrence," says Parkman, "and those along the tributary river, St. Charles, had three accessible points, guarded (until 1871) by the Prescott Gate, the Hope Gate and the Palace Gate. *Prevost* had secured them by barricades of heavy beams and casks filled with earth. A continuous line of palisades ran along the strand of the St. Charles, from the great cliff called the 'Sault au Matelot' to the Palace of the Intendant. At this latter point began the line of works constructed by Frontenac to protect the rear of the town. They consisted of palisades, strengthened by a ditch and an embankment, and flanked at frequent intervals by square towers of stone. Passing behind the garden of the Ursulines, they extended to a windmill (Dupont de Neuville's) on a hillock called 'Mount Carmel,' and then to a brink of the cliff in front. Here there was a battery of eight guns near the present Public Garden (Le Jardin du Fort), two more each of three guns, were planted at the top of the Sault au Matelot, another at the barricade of the Palace Gate, and another near the windmill of Mount Carmel, while a number of light pieces were held in reserve for such use as occasion might require. The Lower Town had no defensive works but two batteries, each of three guns, eighteen and twenty-four pounders were placed here at the edge of the river efficiently directed by Le Moyne de Ste Hélène and Le Moyne de Maricour, two brave brothers of Le Moyne de Longueuil, also serving in this memorable campaign.

Quebec, December 1, 1890.

J. M. LEMOINE.

*PERSONNAGES MARQUANTS DE QUEBEC EN 1690.

Gouverneur Général de la Nouvelle-France. — Louis de Buade, comte de Palluau et de Frontenac, Chevalier de l'ordre de Saint-Louis.
Intendant. — Jean Bochart, sieur de Champigny, Norais, l'Verneuil, etc.
Grand *Prévôt des Marchaux de France*. — Paul Denis, sieur de S. Simon.
Lieutenant particulier de la *Prévôté*. — René Louis Chartier de Lotbinière.
Lieutenant de l'Amirauté. — Jean-Baptiste Couillard de l'Espinay.
Conseillers du Conseil Souverain. — Louis Rouer de Villaray, premier conseiller; Mathias d'Amours, de Chauffour; Nicolas du Pont, de Neuville; Jean Baptiste Peiras; Charles Denis, de Vitre; Charles le Gardeur, de Tilly.
Procureur général du Roi. — F. M. Ruette d'Auteuil.
Greffier en chef du Conseil. — Alexandre Peuvret, de Gaudarville.
Huissiers. — Guillaume Roger, premier huissier; René Hubert, du Conseil; Joseph Prieur, de la *Prévôté*.
Contrôleurs. — Pierre Benac, c. général; Pierre Chevalier, pour les MM. de la Compagnie; Antoine Gourdeau, sieur de Beaulieu.
Trésorier de la Marine. — George Regnard du Plessis, sieur de Morampont.
Grand Voyer. — René Robineau, sieur de Bécancourt, fils du baron.
Hydrographe du Roi. — J. B. Louis Franquelin.
Architectes. — Claude Bailly, Jean le Rouge, François de la Joüe.
Notaires. — Claude Aubert; F. Genaple de Bellefonds; Gilles Rageot; Etienne du Breuil, du Séminaire.
Médecins. — Gervais Beaudoin, des Ursulines; Timothé Roussel; Nicolas Sarazzin; Jean Léger de la Grange; Armand Duminin; Pierre du Roy.
Garde-magasin. — Charles Catignan.
Colonel des troupes. — Louis Philippe Rigaud de Vaudreuil.
Major et commandant de Québec. — Frs. *Prévôt*.
Capitaine des gardes. — Michel le Neuf, sieur de la Vallière.
Exécuteur des hautes œuvres. — Jean Battier.

CLERGÉ DE QUÉBEC.

Mgr François de Laval de Montmorency, retiré.
Mgr Jean-Bte de la Croix-Chevrières de St-Valier.

(To be Continued.)

FINESSE is the best adaptation of means to circumstances. — Macaulay.

THOU mayest be sure that he who will in private tell thee of thy faults is thy friend, for he adventures thy dislike and doth hazard thy hatred. — Sir Walter Raleigh.

IT would be hardly true to say that Christmas literature begins and ends with Charles Dickens, yet one is fain sometimes to make such an assertion. For with him alone reigns the genuine Christmas flavour—something more than mere enumeration of Christmas joys and Christmas dishes, yet no suspicion of cant attaching itself to a single line out of the many he has left us. Like most ardent and gifted people Dickens was a sincere believer. One has only to read his letters to his sons, written when they were about to part from him perhaps forever, to gather an idea of what his Christianity was worth. It was worth a good deal—and as a great many who read his novels know very little of his shorter pieces and miscellaneous work, I am going to quote a paragraph of great beauty from the "Uncommercial Traveller."

"But Hark! The Waits are playing, and they break my childish sleep! What images do I associate with the Christmas music as I see them set forth on the Christmas Tree? Known before all the others, keeping far apart from all the others, that gather round my little bed. An angel, speaking to a group of shepherds in a field; some travellers, with eyes uplifted, following a star; a baby in a manger; a child in a spacious temple, talking with grave men; a solemn figure, with a mild and beautiful face, raising a dead girl by the hand; again, near a city gate, calling back the son of a widow, on his bier, to life; a crowd of people looking through the opened roof of a chamber where he sits, and letting down a sick person on a bed, with ropes; the same, in a tempest, walking on the water to a ship; again, on a sea-shore, teaching a great multitude; again, with a child upon his knee, and other children round; again, restoring sight to the blind, speech to the dumb, hearing to the deaf, health to the sick, strength to the lame, knowledge to the ignorant; again, dying on a Cross, watched by armed soldiers, a thick darkness coming on, the earth beginning to shake, and only one voice heard: 'Forgive them, for they know not what they do.'"

Ah! rest assured that Christmas without Christ is nothing! And now that the arch-festival is over, let me say, I hope no one that reads this column was unhappy on that day, or dejected, or worried, or unfortunate. That married people stayed at home and played with their children when they had them; and when they hadn't, that they went into the dark places of the town and did what they could for other people's children. That bachelors found warm and innocent welcomes at the hearths of grave yet cheery friends. That old-maid aunts and poor relations were patiently dealt with. That servants were spoken pleasantly to, and that something was dropped into the errand-boy's hand. That that letter to an aged relation across the sea was written, and that a Christmas-card was sent to a friend, forgotten these ten years. That the home was paramount, and that most of you stayed away from the theatre or the dance and went to church in the morning and kept in by your fireside in the evening. And above all—away with that fancy that Christmas is "only for the children." Have we, as men and women, as toilers and workers, parents and friends, and lovers, no rights, no privileges, no claims as well as the little ones to the sweet follies and hallowed delights of Christmas-time? I am certain we have, only the bread-winning, and the toiling and moiling somehow make us forget them.

But, of course, there is a reverse side to the picture—there always is. I have seen Christmas Day relegated to a positive idolatry of wasteful, improvident, spoiled and petted childhood's whims and caprices. The floor is strewn with senseless toys; the child is first bewildered, then impatient, and, lastly, irritable and excited. In common with the rest of the household, he eats overmuch, and that "sweet reticence" which should, if ever, surely be practised at this season is sadly wanting, with the prosaic result of ill-health on the morrow and a wheelbarrow full of broken toys.

A discussion between advocates of Canadian accent and pronunciation and adherents of English models of the same has opened in the *Mail*. How ridiculous these Radical friends of ours are, who consider that if we make use of the soft *a* or otherwise lean to the accepted English standards, we are naturally Anglomaniacs, and, therefore, unpatriotic Canadians! It might be supposed that as we are accustomed to regard Germans and Frenchmen as the best purveyors of their own languages, so educated Englishmen might well be left to represent the noble speech, not alone of Britain, but of her manifold outposts and possessions. But no—we frequently hear that the best English is spoken in Dublin, that provincialisms infect the speech of even cultivated dwellers in the world's metropolis, and we are even called upon to assent to the remarkable statement that two out of three Englishmen drop their "h's."

Harm has, no doubt, been done to the cause by the advent of shallow and wandering sons of Albion, who too often are taken by narrow natives of this Dominion for true representatives of their country. The truth is, that there does undoubtedly exist a very unpleasant and unmannerly accent among Canadians, compounded of Irish and Yankee. There is nothing wholesome about it, whereas we all love an honest dash of brogue, nor can we fail to applaud the clear insistence of much American enunciation. This reminds me that once, when visiting in the Western States, I complained of the habit among young men,

*"Tout est ici de belle taille, et le plus beau sang du monde dans les deux sexes; l'esprit enjoué, les manières douces et polies sont communs à tous; et la rusticité, soit dans le langage, soit dans les façons, n'est pas même connue dans les campagnes les plus écartées. Nulle part ailleurs, on ne parle plus purement notre langue. On ne remarque même ici aucun accent." — Charlevoix.