

He was the saviour of Canada on the St. Lawrence River. Had he not escaped (in the disguise of a fisherman) from Montreal when the American general, Montgomery, entered that city; had he been unable to evade the enemy's vessels that closely sentinelled the river; had his own and Captain Bouchette's presence of mind failed them, when, as he slept, a body of American soldiers filed into the adjoining apartment and were fooled by the nonchalance of the governor and his faithful aide—the province on the St. Lawrence would have become the property of the Congress. To his skill and energy we owe the defeat of Montgomery and Arnold before the ramparts of Quebec City. The night of Dec. 31st, 1775, when an attempt was made to storm the weakly-garrisoned citadel (the only remaining part of Canada not then under the control and in the occupancy of Congressional troops) resulting in the death of Montgomery, the wounding of Arnold and the discomfiture of the American forces—that night is one of Canada's memorable dates, because the event was the first of a short series which hurried\* the revolutionary forces back to the place whence they came and preserved Canada to Great Britain.

Carleton who had saved Quebec by doggedly holding on through the winter of 1775-76, waiting for English ships to force their way up the river—in the meanwhile infusing his own courage and resolution into the hearts of the handful of young soldiers, raw militia and sailors he had found in the citadel when he landed from Captain Bouchette's boat—followed up the retreating foe, who rapidly fled in the greatest confusion when on the 6th of May the long-expected reinforcements arrived and H.M. frigates "Surprise" and "Isis" anchored under the shadow of Cape Diamond and sent 200 men ashore. By the 18th of June Arnold's men had been forced back from Ca-

nadian soil to Lake Champlain. By the 1st of July Carleton was in Chambly with all his plans ready for the mastery of Lake Champlain. By prodigies of labour he created and equipped, in three months' time, a fleet of fighting vessels that swept the Americans off the lake in three days and opened the gateway for British troops in their final attempt to put down rebellion—an attempt brought to naught by the malignity of Lord George Germain and the incapacity of General Burgoyne.

Carleton had charge of the embarkation from New York of the grateful thousands who, in 1783, abandoned homes and friends and sought new homes along the forest-fringed bays and rivers of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, preferring the Union Jack to the Stars and Bars.\*

He it was who, in 1789, secured the passing of the famous Order in Council which embodied his "wish to put a mark of honour upon the families who have adhered to the unity of the Empire and joined the standard in America before the Treaty of Separation in 1783"—the "mark of honour" he established, being the grand one of U.E. (United Empire Loyalists) which survives to this day as a much-prized badge.†

Carleton was the man who initiated the policy of kindness in the treatment

\* Brook Watson (afterwards Sir Brook), writing to Rev. Dr. Brown, in 1791, and referring to the fact that "as Commissary-General to the army serving in North America it was his duty in 1783, under the command of Sir Guy Carleton, now Lord Dorchester, to embark 35,000 Loyalists of New York to take shelter in Nova Scotia," says, "they (the Loyalists) had great reason to bless the considerate mind and feeling heart of Lord Dorchester, under whose directions and provident care, ever awake to their wants, I had the pleasing task of liberally providing for them everything necessary to their transportation and settlement, with provisions for one year after their arrival."

† During the meeting of the Dominion Teachers' Association in August, 1898, I sent the following telegram to A. McKay, the President of the Association:

"An Order in Council was passed on Nov. 9th, 1789, at the request of Sir Guy Carleton, Lord Dorchester, the first Governor-General of Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. In it Lord Dorchester expressed a wish to put a mark of honour upon the families who adhered to the Unity of the Empire in 1783. Opposite their names were put the letters 'U. E.'—thus preserving the memory of their devotion to a United Empire. The germ of the United Empire movement of to-day is contained in that Order in Council. I suggest, as most appropriate, November 9th for 'United Empire Day' in the public schools of the Dominion. It is also the Prince of Wales' birthday." Nothing came of the suggestion.

\*In the "Precis of the Wars in Canada," printed by desire of the Duke of Wellington in 1826 "for official persons," it is said "the Americans appear to have evacuated Canada very nearly as rapidly as they had entered it."