

Narrative.

THE settlements on the river Miramichi have flourished almost beyond example in this part of the New World.

The first town that was built there, called Chatham, lies on the south bank of the river, and dates its origin about 30 years from this period. Its advances were gradual, but Newcastle, situate on the north side of the stream, counted previous to the devastation in this autumn, upwards of 450 houses in the parish or circle around it, where ten years since there were hardly a dozen buildings.—The lumber trade, for which the site of Newcastle is eminently favorable, has, within a very few years, given a rapid growth to the settlements on both sides of the river. Large mercantile establishments have been formed there, and a numerous population of emigrants were employed in cutting lumber in the woods, and bringing it to the place of embarkation. The country around was rapidly improving, and within three months of the last summer 146 large vessels sailed from the port to Europe with full cargoes of timber. The forests seemed almost inexhaustible, and the spirit of industry brought the blessings of trade and consequent affluence to the active inhabitants. Two printing presses had been established, one at Newcastle, and the other at Chatham, where a newspaper was commenced.

The estimable and energetic governor of New-Brunswick, Sir Howard Douglas, desirous of securing to the people of every section in the country under his management, the advantage of having their situation, local wants, and resources, known to the executive, had gone in every direction through New Brunswick, receiving in his progress the most sincere tokens of personal respect and attachment. At Miramichi in particular, his visit gave the greatest satisfaction. The inhabitants were charmed with seeing, for the first time, an officer of his rank, come among them with parental solicitude, to see with his own eyes the state of the country. A new town 2 miles

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