

pence, and a pair of shoes. Eels were sold in the market for one farthing per hundred: 40,000 had been taken that year from August to November.

The prosperity of the City and the Island of Montreal continued to increase. As early as the year 1657, a large part of this property, even at that period valuable, was cleared and settled, under the direction of the Abbé Queylus, who had arrived from France, with authority from the Seminary in Paris for that and other purposes essentially connected with the welfare of the Province. Among other important services, he founded the Seminary of St. Sulpice at Montreal for the conversion of the Indians, and for promoting the settlement of the whole domain. As soon as the members of the order residing here had taken possession of their property, they forwarded the design of establishing a hospital for the sick, in which they were assisted by munificent donations from several persons in France. In 1662, the Seminary was enlarged by further endowments, for the purpose of providing a sufficient number of young men for the priesthood, and of supplying the new parishes with curés.

In 1674 the whole French population, including converted Indians, did not exceed eight thousand; but, by the aid of their native allies, whom they were more expert in conciliating, they for many years maintained their position, and even gained upon their less skilful but persevering neighbours.

The peace of Utrecht took place in 1703, and Vaudreuil availed himself of it to strengthen the fortifications of Quebec and Montreal. The population of the former city, in 1720, was 7,000, and that of Montreal 3,000. Ten years of peace very much improved the trade and resources of Canada: nineteen vessels cleared from Quebec in 1723, and six merchant ships and two men of war were built in the colony during this period.

The year 1759 is, and ever will be, memorable in the annals of Canada. The French, perceiving that the English were in earnest in their designs upon it, sent strong reinforcements to their garrisons. The campaign opened with great vigour. Canada was to be invaded at three different points under Generals of high talent. The forces intended to act against Quebec were under the command of the heroic General Wolfe, who had taken Fort Louisbourg and subdued the Island of Cape Breton the preceding year. Wolfe's army, amounting to

about 8000 men, was conveyed to the vicinity of Quebec by a fleet of vessels of war and transports commanded by Admiral Saunders, and landed in two divisions on the Isle of Orleans the 27th of June. The French commander, Montcalm, made vigorous preparations for defence. He arranged his army of about 12,000 men between the river of St. Charles and the Falls of Montmorenci, to oppose the landing of the British forces, which, in their attack upon his entrenchments, were repulsed. Wolfe at first doubted from this failure whether any thing could be effected in the present season; but afterwards, rousing his brave and ardent spirit, and calling a council of war, he resolved upon the bold and hazardous enterprise of ascending the heights of Abraham, and attacking the city in that direction. The plan was executed with admirable skill and determination. The result is well known; the chiefs on both sides fell, and left behind them honourable names. Wolfe died on the field of battle, in the arms of victory; and Montcalm in the city, to which he had been carried, thankful that he should not live to see the surrender of the place. The battle on the Plains of Abraham was fought on the 13th of September, 1759; and five days afterwards, on the 18th, Quebec surrendered to the British arms. The details of this memorable exploit belong to the history of that city, but the glory of it will remain to distant ages, and every Briton especially, on looking back to the Ministry which projected and the General who achieved it, will reflect with delight,

"That CHATHAM's language was his mother tongue,  
And WOLFE's great name compatriot with his own."

In the following spring the French army which had been collected in the neighbourhood of Montreal, under the command of the Chevalier de Levi, marched to Quebec for the purpose of attacking and regaining it; but without success. A reinforcement from England arrived just in time to save the city; and de Levi broke up his camp, and retired with precipitation towards Montreal. Vaudreuil, the Governor, finding the whole of the Canadas in danger, determined to take his last stand on behalf of French dominion, in this city; and hither he called in all his detachments, and concentrated his remaining strength. He enlarged the fortifications for the defence of the town, and converted sloops into armed vessels. Meantime General Murray, with as many troops as could be spared from Quebec, advanced towards the point