many as twenty thousand people in that region who had
emigrated thitherward from other States. These people
had enjoyed the benefit of British laws as administered in
colonial courts. They were not then disposed to accept
in their place the "*Coutume de Paris*" or any other
system of French law in place of the law to which they
had been accustomed. Thus a very large auxiliary force
was added to the small number of Anglo-Canadian
subjects settled in the districts of Montreal and Quebec, to
aid in protesting against the French law. '

In 1784, following the treaty of peace between the
United States and Britain, a large number of subjects of
the King in the now enfranchised colonies south of the
St. Lawrence and the great lakes who preferred Monarchial
to Republican government, and came to Canada, settled
on the banks of the St. Lawrence. These emigrants to
Canada, called the United Empire Loyalists, on their
arrival in Canada soon found that their situation was not
much improved if they were to be relegated to the old,
and, in their view, antiquated laws of France. They left
the United States especially to place themselves under
British law, and this they determined to have. In this
particular they only held to the same opinion as had
influenced the people of the Ohio Valley when they,
between 1774 and 1783, made their protest against being
governed by French law.

In 1788 Lord Dorchester, acting for the King, styling
His Majesty King of Great Britain, France, and Ireland,
issued a proclamation reciting the ordinances of the Pro-
vince, dividing the Province into two districts, and
proclaimed that thereafter the Province should be divided
into five Provinces, namely: Lunenburg, bounded on the
eastern limit by a tract of land called by the name of
"The Lancaster Tract," the western limit of which should
·be the mouth of the Gananoque River, or as then called,
the Thames River; Mecklenburg, to adjoin Lunenburg
on the west, and to extend to the mouth of the river
Trent; Nassau, to adjoin Mecklenburg, and extend