

## OLD FORT FRONTENAC.



AT the western extremity of Carleton Island, which lies near Lake Ontario, on a promontory of land, ending in a rocky bluff some seventy feet in height, are the ruins of an old French Fort. The half-ruined and toppling chimneys alone remain as monuments of the glory which has departed. The history of the fort is well nigh lost in the mists of the past, but the ruins are supposed to be those of Old Fort Frontenac. The fort must have been built at an early date, for in 1760 it fell into the hands of the English, along with the entire French possessions. It is recorded, that in the war of 1812 it was taken by a party of Americans, under command of an ex-revolutionary soldier named Hubbard, at which time it was occupied by two women and three invalids, who made a slight resistance but soon capitulated. The fort, which at that time had advanced considerably in decay, was fired, and the Americans took their prisoners ashore at Cape Vincent, where the victors were received with great enthusiasm. At one time the fortress must have been an important one. Its construction exhibits a good deal of skill in the line of defences. The fortifications in the rear were semi-circular in form, having a trench cut in the solid limestone, twenty feet wide and four feet deep; the rock wall was also four feet high. The front portion of the fort was naturally impregnable, and was doubtless defended by a stockade, although the ashes of it, when the fort was burned, were swept away, leaving no trace of what once was. To the rear of the fort, in a flat field, lie a number of graves, and further back, in a copse, is an old Indian burying ground. Many of these graves have been desecrated by the ruthless relic hunter, and some French buttons and rusty buckles have been found in some of the former, while stone arrow heads and stone tomahawk heads