

old streets. The lower town is the seat of activity and commerce, where are the Custom House and Exchange Reading-room. Most of the ships anchor above the town at Wolfe Cove.

On arriving in the upper town from the lower, we find ourselves in a very different place; the streets are rather narrow; but, in general, they are clean, and tolerably well paved. The houses are covered with tin; shingles not being allowed. Many of the buildings are, it is true, in the style of older times, yet there is an air of respectability and fashion which at once tells us we are in a metropolitan city.

The public buildings are substantial rather than elegant. The chateau de St. Louis, the residence of the governor-general, is a huge, plain, baronial building, projecting over the precipice of Cape Diamond, here 300 feet high; in front of the chateau is an esplanade. Nearly opposite the gates is the Protestant cathedral, with a beautiful spire; and near it stands the Court-house. The old palace of the former bishops of Quebec, standing nearly over the gate leading from the lower town, is now the Parliament House of Canada. As a building, it is certainly much more imposing than was our old House of Commons. Near this spot is the site of the magnificent palace of the Intendant-General, or Civil Governor of New France, which was destroyed by Sir Guy Carleton, to prevent its being taken by General Montgomery, in 1755.

The Catholic Cathedral is a huge edifice, with a heavy dome and spire; and its interior exhibits much of the imposing grandeur of the Romish churches: the Bishop and sometimes fifty priests officiate here. In the city are several other Catholic churches, one in the lower town, and another in the suburb of St. Roch.

There are three nunneries at Quebec, two of which are hospitals. The nuns of Canada are not the useless beings that they may be imagined. Although they have retired from the open world, yet, as nurses to the sick admitted within their walls, or as the instructors of young girls, they are of much benefit to society. They also manufacture beautiful work-boxes, reticules, and some other articles, which they sell for the benefit of their respective convents.

Next is the strong, quadrangular building which was formerly the College of the Jesuits, and was, when occupied by them the most spacious building in America.* The British government converted this edifice into barracks. In front is an open space, in the middle of which stands the market, an ill-constructed, wooden building, though it cost from 6,000*l.* to 8,000*l.*

The public institutions of Quebec are numerous. The French College is a substantial, old building with a garden attached. It has a principal and three professors; one each, for theology, rhetoric and for mathematics and physics, and five regents of the humanity classes. Besides several minor French and English schools, and some Sunday schools, there is a national school on a liberal foundation; likewise a Royal Grammar-school, and a classical academy.

A Royal Institution also exists here; the Protestant bishop being the principal. The Literary and Historical Society of Quebec is under the direction of the Chief Justice of Canada. The Quebec Library contains an extensive collection of standard works. There are four respectable newspapers published within the city. Neither does Quebec want benevolent and useful associations. The principal of these are—the Quebec Emigrant Society; Quebec Agricultural Society; Medical Society; Quebec Diocesan Committee of the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge; Ladies' Society for Propagating Education and Industry in Canada; Ladies' Bible Society; Bible and Tract Society; Quebec Education Society, and the Fire Society. Besides the

Bank of Quebec, and a branch of the Montreal Bank, there is also a Savings' Bank.

There are two or three distilleries, breweries, tobacco, soap, and candle manufactories. Several beautiful ships have been for many years built here; and we find such tradesmen as are usual in a city, but not all those of a manufacturing town. Here are brewers, distillers, carpenters, joiners, carriage-builders, smiths, saddlers, tanners, barbers, tailors, shoemakers, mill and wheel-wrights, upholsterers, and those less important personages, players, fiddlers, dancing-masters, and tavern-keepers.

A great proportion of British and other goods imported, are sold by auction; the Canadian shopkeepers, who seldom import goods from other countries, prefer buying their goods at public sales than by private bargain. Some of the shops are fitted up in a way which the Cockneys would call rather *stylish*; but like the shops all over America, you find in most of them every variety of goods sold in the country: silks, lace, muslins, ribbons, crockery ware, and ironmongery; broad cloths and cutlery; saddles, and looking-glasses; spikes, nails, and spades; needles, thimbles, and pins.

What will ever render Quebec a position of the first and most mighty consideration to England, or to any power holding possession of the empire of the Canadas, and which fully justifies even the enormous outlays expended on its fortifications is its particular situation, and the extraordinary natural features of the spot on which it is founded. It is now absolutely impossible for a ship of any size to pass either up or down contrary to the permission of those who possess its garrison. Very large ships cannot go up to Montreal; nor are there any intermediate places of great, commercial importance.

The citadel of Quebec, on the highest part of Cape Diamond, is a fortification not inferior to any in Europe, and commands every surrounding position. The old French walls were remarkably strong, but they have been nearly all destroyed on the land side, and replaced with others if possible still stronger, and constructed according to the more modern rules of defence. There are five gates, strongly defended, in the walls which surround the city, viz. St. Louis' Gate, St. John's Gate, Palace Gate, Hope Gate, and Prescott Gate, through which we ascend from the lower to the upper town. The armoury of Quebec is well worth visiting and examining. It is only inferior to that of the Tower of London.

The population of Quebec and its suburbs is estimated at 30,000 souls; more than two thirds of the numbers being Canadian French. The English and Canadians do not generally mix together, partly from the English having formerly assumed an arrogant superiority over the French. The Canadian gentry all over the province, consisting chiefly of the noblesse and gentry, or their descendants, retain the courteous urbanity of the French school of the last century. They speak French as purely as it is spoken at Paris; and many of them also speak English fluently.

In Quebec, there are few amusements during summer. Active pursuits occupy all classes. Short excursions on the water, or pic-nic parties to Indian Loreite, Lake St. Charles, or the Falls of Chaudiere, are occasionally made; and sometimes excursions are extended to Kamouraska, or up to Montreal, or as far as the Falls of Niagara. On the plain of Abraham is an excellent race-course. "In winter, when all the world at Quebec is idle, and when the navigation of Canada and trade of Quebec are bound in icy fetters, balls at the Chateau, assemblies in the town, *pic-nics*, and family parties are frequent. The inhabitants dress in summer as lightly as in Jamaica;

* Upon this plain is an obelisk of appropriate grandeur, to the "Immortal Memory of Wolfe and Montcalm," the latter, the French general at the siege in which Wolfe was killed.

* Founded in 1635, by the Pere Remi Roubalet. It well, it is said, contain 2,000 troops.

and in winter both be as well protected and robes, as Quebec may trust men, and a Russian grotesque than the sledges, either snow-covered or not; but the uneven state with by the low carriage thing like a boat firm between Quebec standing the in wooden canoes, among the cakes is called a *pont*, the occasion; years."

Living at Quebec not arise either of necessity habits of the most hospitable they may be introduced over Canada. the Chateau, conclusion.

"The market rounds it, is the basis of the police in summer and carts, with hay of wild pigeons appear early in the daughters of small carts, from observe the office of the garrison professions, at the luxuries of the thronged carter of the together with the brawling broken English up the confines sledges bring pork, mutton, article of lux The fish most of pickerel, but times plentiful which it is caught with a long, h sturgeon, eels, market, but across the coast.

The best hour. The g of Cape Diamond exceed in magnitude the castles of the St. Lawrence miles of one of tall ships, small divided for to studded with time," says, presents villas and mountain the north and bossed within mated by the Charlebois river St. Charles of wood and low, we behold us, the lower