

commenced a career in the new land and laid a foundation on which his heir has built. In such a case as this, many books which in a certain point of view are entirely out of date, at once regain a value as important helps to the mind in a desired resuscitation of a particular period of the past. Furthermore, in the lapse of time—in the lapse of even a few years—in some instances, a certain pleasant flavour of age is acquired by the language employed in local books; and a volume in itself perhaps of no especial intrinsic merit is, for this reason, sought after and enjoyed.

The first Gazetteer of Upper Canada, compiled soon after the organization of the Province in 1793, attracted my attention a few years since; and, as it is a work which has become scarce, and the contents of which seem likely to interest those who concern themselves about the early history of the country, I thought it would not be unfitting to reproduce it by instalments in the pages of our Canadian Journal, accompanying each part with such annotations as might throw light, where needed, on the origin of the names.

The perusal of this Gazetteer has led me to the consideration of other early topographical sketches of Canada, and other Gazetteers, antecedent or subsequent, having reference to Canada. And I have supposed that a short account of such productions, with brief specimens, would not be uninteresting or out of place.

The earliest Gazetteer that I have seen, embracing accounts of Western Canada, is one published in London, soon after the conquest of Canada in 1759, by G. Robinson, Paternoster Row. Its title is "The North American and the West Indian Gazetteer." It contains accounts of all the British Colonies of North America, none of which in 1759 had revolted. A copy of the second edition of this work, published in 1778, is in my possession. I have seen mentioned an "American Gazetteer, containing an account of all the parts of the New World. 3 vols., 12mo. Maps. 1762," but upon this work I have not been able to lay my hands. I think it was printed on this continent, and not in England.

The North American and West Indian Gazetteer has no notice of the locality on which Toronto is situated, and from which it took its name. But Toronto appears very plainly on the folding map prefixed to the book, and the same name is attached to a lake north of Lake Ontario, and also to the chain of lakes and water communication connected with the Trent and the Bay of Quinté. We do not find