

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| 178 houses | 33 barns. |
| 126 stables | 164 horses. |
| 87 mares | 27 bulls. |
| 295 cows | 76 oxen. |
| 147 calves | 20 swine. |
| 96 carts | 31 ploughs. |
| 39 harrows | 13 boats. |
| 173 canoes. | |

There are 672½ acres of land in a state of cultivation; 144,105 acres of prairie, and 21,901 acres of woodland. The total extent of lands measured amounts to 170,135 acres 3 roods.

The population would have been double the above number were it not for the falling off of the Swiss and the De Meurons,* most of whom have abandoned the colony, and proceeded to St. Louis and the banks of the Mississippi, and their places have not been supplied by any fresh arrivals from England.

Extract of a letter from Churchill, or Prince of Wales' Fort, 1829.

After spending several years among our new establishments on the north-west side of this great continent, behold me now in one of our most ancient settlements on the north-east side. Any thing in the shape of antiquity is a novelty in the *pays sauvage*; and as I know you are fond of novelty, I must give you a sketch of this redoubtable fortress. Churchill was erected in 1733, under the superintendance of Mr. James Robson, chief architect to the Hudson's-Bay Company. It was well fortified with a raveline and four bastions, and the walls measure twenty-seven feet in breadth. Forty pieces of cannon were mounted on the walls: in fact, the place was deemed impregnable: yet, notwithstanding all this apparent strength, it was captured by La Peyrouse, without any trouble, and nearly all razed to the ground. Had the Company's servants done their duty at the time, they might have bid defiance to any force; but *de mortuis nil, &c.* About the fort are now to be seen decayed carriages without guns, rust-eaten guns without carriages, groups of unappropriated balls of various caliber, broken down walls, and dilapidated stores. The governor's old house is the only place any way inhabitable; and even it will require immense repairs to make it tolerably tenatable. I assure you I would prefer residing in one of our snug square-built little boxes on the Columbia to this melancholy remnant of departed greatness.

The following names are cut out in large characters in the wall in front of the fort: RICHARD NORTON, 1752; GULFORD LONG OF ROTHERHITHE, 1754; JOHN NEWTON, 1752.†

In the year 1800 Mr. Atkinson found the following inscription written in a piece of cedar-wood, about a foot square and five feet above the ground, on Old Factory Island in James's Bay, about thirty miles to the northward of East Main Factory. All the letters were quite visible.

"In the year 1692 wintered three ships at this island, with one hundred and twenty-seven men, under the government of Captain James Knight. Then we erected this monument in remembrance of it."

Three different tribes occasionally visit us. They belong to the Crees, Chepewyans, and the Esquimaux, and we purchase from them beaver,

* De Meuron's regiment was disbanded in Canada at the late peace, and numbers of the men proceeded to Lord Selkirk's colony at the Red River.

† Churchill is in lat. 58° 44' N., and long. 95° 30' W.