

"*Ans.* They possess all the Rest, but it is not known how far this Coast reaches Southwards (Northwards?) Its Length cannot well be computed; what is known is about 1,200 Miles, and the breadth from North to West, 800 Miles. The French discovered this Country by means of their Fishery; who, since 1504, found abundance of Cod near this Coast." The ambiguity of this paragraph is really charming!

"*Q.* What Colonies have the French here?

"*Ans.* They have *Canada Propria*, which is parted from *New Scotland* by the River St. Lawrence. It is about 320 Miles long and 120 broad.

"*Q.* Which are the principal Places therein?

"*Ans.* 1. *Quebec*, the Capital; a large, well built City, with a Citadel, wherein resides the Governor. There is also a College. 2. *Brest*, a Sea Port, and a Place of great Commerce. 3. *Mount Royal*, a Fortification to keep the wild *Canadians* in Awe. 4. *Nipisiqui*, a Town where the Indians come and barter for their Commodities."

In connection with the towns here enumerated, one would like to know a little about *Brest* and *Nipisiqui*. Where were they, if they existed at all, and by what names do we speak of them to-day?

"*Q.* What other Colonies have the French?

"*Ans.* *New France*; this Colony was before nothing but a Wilderness; but the *French* have cut down the woods and made the Country now produce good Pasture and Corn-Fields; so that they have Plenty of Cattle, Corn and Flax. There are also Copper, Iron, and Lead Mines; but the best Traffick consists in Wood, Sea-Coal, Salt-Fish, and several sorts of furs."

The production of "Corn-Fields" is quite original.

"*Q.* Which are the principal Places in *New France*?

"*Ans.* Tadousac, which is a good Harbour, and Fortification against the wild *Canadians*; 2. Orleans; and 3. The Island of *St. John*, several miles in Length, besides many Settlements of less Note.

"*Ans.* Which Part of Canada is inhabited by the wild Natives?

"*Ans.* They possess almost all Parts of it, and their Number may be reckoned 1,000 to one *European*. They have no Fortifications, Magazines, or good Officers, so that the *Europeans* stand in no Fear of their Revolt. The Men are strong and healthful, the Women are white, but paint themselves a Variety of Colours in which they are proud to outdo one another. They go naked in Summer, but in Winter they cover themselves with Skins. Their chief Employ is Hunting, and they trouble their Heads about little else; they are continually at War; the Prisoners are cruelly tortured, flea'd, and then broil'd and eat. Some of these Countries are distinguished by their several Nations, as:—

1. The *Iroquois*;      3. The Illinois;
2. The Hurons;      4. Tongoria;
5. The Hinois;

and many more.

It is particularly noticeable that not a word is said about the Falls of Niagara, and this is the more remarkable from the fact that their position is very distinctly laid down on the map—at the junction of "Upper Lake," or Lake Superior, with Lake Huron!

The singular jumble of fact with fancy cannot fail to strike the reader at once. The "Geographer to his Majesty" no doubt felt it incumbent upon him to say *something*, even when he knew next to nothing, and in giving rein to his imagination he must have considered himself moderately safe on American soil.