

men of this colony who bore the great names of Lescabot, the historian and poet, of Champlain, the Geographer of the King, of de Poutrinecourt, the Knight of Chivalry, did something else besides live on the prestige and romance of an ancestral past. What recommends them above the hewing down of forests, the planting of grain, the erection of dykes to wrest from the sea the fertile marshes, the schemes of commerce—all necessary things whose imperative "must" is recognized in the vulgar command to the equally vulgar hord of immigrants who throng to a new country of "Root hog, or die!"—was the romance and beauty they had wrought in their lives, with hospitality and the love of artistic creations.

Scarcely had this little settlement been formed when the members began to set apart ornamental walks about their habitations in which the seeds of beautiful flowers, brought from France, were planted. The road from Port Royal leading towards the Baie Ste Marie was planted on both sides with slips of the willow, derived also from France for this purpose, whose dwarfed and neglected offspring may be seen to this day on the south road-side from Annapolis to Clementsport.

But the most convincing evidence of their refined sentiments and altruistic nature is seen in the ceremonies of the "Ordre de Bon Temps," instituted by the Baron de Poutrinecourt for the purpose of binding together for mutual assistance and progress and hospitality the foremost of the colony. The feasts of this order were not less than 52 in the course of the year. For each feast, the members chose a lord steward who prepared the programme of song, toasts and recital, history and poesy; chose his assistants and provided for the menu, to which all others contributed in game, meats, cookery, wine and confection. The Lord Steward was invested with a collar of office which cost four French pounds in silver. On the day and at the hour of the feast, the company of guests formed in line, each one carrying his own plate and cup and preceded by the Lord Steward with staff of office in hand and napkin on shoulder, marched to the hall, or place of festivity. At the close of this ceremony of good cheer, and feast of good fellowship, the next Lord Steward would be chosen by the company, and invested by the actual lord steward with the collar and staff of office, after which the old and the new Lords Steward would pledge

each other in a brimming glass of wine.

Sometimes to these feasts the chiefs of the neighboring Indian tribes would be invited, and the captains of the occasional ships in port. The influence of this order shed the rays of its sunshine throughout all the colony, warming the heart and cheering the understanding by the wholesome emotions of generosity and good fellowship. This order subsisted so long as the Baron de Poutrinecourt remained in the colony and even after the colony was broken up and its prosperity injured by the continued hostile excursions of the neighboring English.

A little later the country passed by grant under the name of Nova Scotia, from King James VI, to William Alexander, Earl of Stirling, who proceeded to colonize it as a feudal state. The grant obtained from King James by Lord Stirling embraced Cape Breton and the peninsula and the lands east of the Ste Croix River. Stimulated by the spectacle of the knightly and feudal holdings of the French, he instituted in their pattern, with the approbation of the King, an order of nobles called "The Order of the Baronets of Nova Scotia." It was limited to 150 members who received grants of land on condition of settling in the province and remaining there as lords of domain.

The date of the formal establishment of this order was in 1623, by special commission of Charles I. "To advance the plantation of Nova Scotia, in America, and to found there a colony."

A territorial domain was assigned each baronet with hereditary belongings and jurisdiction civil and military over his tenants.

Each person before he could become a baronet was obliged to show that his grandfather was of the rank of gentleman.

To the family-arms of each baronet supporters were added, and in the shield, an escutcheon of the arms of the province which had also been granted by the King and are the following: "Argent, a saltire, azure at the centre of which is emblazoned an escutcheon of the arms of Scotland (or, a lion rampant, gules, armed and membered within a tressure flory, counter-flory, gules) surmounted by the royal crown of Scotland. The arms of the province, bore in addition to the shield, two savages in grand tenure. The motto is "Fiax mentis honestae gloria."

The costume prescribed for the baronets was of the knightly description, they hearing a decoration suspended from