

work with the old fort. Its walls are showing huge fissures, and on recent inspection it was declared unfit for further defensive service.

In the moat, on the north side of the fort, is a hot-shot furnace still in a good state of preservation.

The construction of the fort was commenced in 1620, and finished in 1756, by convict labour chiefly. The walls are twenty-one feet high with bastions at each corner of its trapezium form, and enclose an area of sixty yards square. The principal entrance is approached through a barbican and over a draw-bridge. Over the entrance, beneath the Spanish coat-of-arms, and nearly obliterated, is the inscription, in Spanish, of which the following is a translation—"Don Fernando VI. being King of Spain, the Field Marshal, Don Alonso Fernando Heredia, Governor and Captain of this city of St. Augustine, Florida, and its provinces, finished this Castle in the year 1756. The Captain of Engineers, Don Pedro de Brozisy Garay superintending the work."

(To be continued.)

JONATHAN SEWELL.

Jonathan Sewell, the first law student of New Brunswick, was born at Boston, Mass., 6th June, 1766. His father, after whom he was named, was at one time Attorney General of Massachusetts. He married a daughter of Edmund Quincy. Her sister was the wife of John Hancock, the first signer of the Declaration of Independence, and first Governor of the State of Massachusetts. He left with his wife and two sons at its evacuation, 17th March, 1776, for England. Young Jonathan with his brother Stephen was placed at the Bristol Grammar school where they made rapid progress.

In 1784, Jonathan entered Braynosc College, Oxford. He did not remain there long before he embarked for New Brunswick, to enter the law office of Ward Chipman, who had written for him. After studying for three years he was admitted at the July term in 1788 an attorney, and a year later a barrister. In the summer of 1789, his father, mother and brother arrived at St. John from England. On the invitation of Edward Winslow young Sewell in the summer of 1786 made a visit to Fredericton, and while there the first court was opened, followed by the trial and conviction of Nelson and Harbord, farmers, and formerly soldiers, for shooting an Indian, who was suspected of stealing pigs.

In the summer of 1788, Jonathan Sewell commenced practice in St. John, and the Hon. Daniel Bliss of Sunbury, entered his son John Murray Bliss, as a student. On the 30th of October, 1789, Jonathan Sewell was admitted to the Quebec bar, and in 1793, although only 26, was appointed Solicitor General, and in 1795 Attorney General. In 1808, Mr. Sewell was Chief Justice of Lower Canada and President of the Executive, and in the year following Speaker of the Legislative Council.

In 1814, Chief Justice Sewell left for England, the Governor General placing a transport at his service. In 1832 Harvard University conferred on him the degree of L. L. D., and in 1838 he received Her Majesty's permission to retire from the Bench, and on the recommendation of Earl Durham, Governor General, the Imperial Government granted a pension of £1,000 sterling per annum. He died in Quebec, November 12th, 1839, in the 74th year of his age.

We publish below a letter of Jonathan Sewell's to Ward

Chipman, the original of which was placed at our disposal by Mr. J. W. Lawrence, who was also kind enough to supply us with the short sketch of Mr. Sewell which we publish above.

Bristol Feby. 2nd. 1783.

Every intelligence from you, my dear sir, must give me satisfaction, consequently your last afforded me great pleasure. To have found myself not entirely forgotten, would have been some consolation, how great then is my pleasure in finding myself so warmly remembered. The high opinion you are kind enough to entertain of me, and the compliments you bestow upon me, while they flatter, and at the same time excite some degree of vanity, will, I hope, prove further incitements to my perseverance in the path you so earnestly recommend by the pursuit of my studies. I am fully sensible of the justice and propriety of the observations contained in your last, and easily perceive the value of a good education, which, through the kind affection of my father, I have amply enjoyed. I will endeavour and strive, to the utmost of my poor abilities, to accomplish what is the constant and sole object of his care, and for which I am fully persuaded you sincerely wish that I may, in some measure, answer the expectation which you and my honored parent have placed upon me, and partly return the many favors I have received, and which are daily accumulating. The encomiums you bestow upon my drawing, I assure you, flatter me not a little, but not so much as to make me vain, as I must attribute the most part of them to friendship and purblind esteem, which cannot, or rather will not, behold those faults which are conspicuous to others. I am now drawing in oil colors for the first time. I am taking off a cat, which we have, (the same breed with our Roger at Cambridge, and the very image of him) and which I hope soon to have the pleasure of showing you at Halifax. Your agreeable situation at New York gives me the greatest satisfaction, and I hope your felicity will continue uninterrupted through a series of years. You see I profit by your hint of writing on any subject, and have skipped from one thing to another, till I have almost tired your attention, but, notwithstanding, I fear my nonsense has tired you. I acknowledge this letter to be a short one, and, by way of excuse, I do promise that the length of my next epistle (which shall come the next opportunity) shall apologize for the brevity of this. I have now neither time nor paper enough to relate many particulars, which I would otherwise have done, and my letter being called for can only subscribe myself, with unfeigned sincerity,

Your obliged friend,

J. SEWELL, JR.

FROM ST. JOHN TO HALIFAX.—A SKETCH.

On a certain day or rather night of last October, I bade farewell to my friends in St. John and boarded the night express, preparatory to my departure for Halifax. As the engine steamed out of the depot, my mind was filled with the joyful anticipation of a long night's rest. But, alas for human hopes! I carefully made my arrangements to enjoy the expected repose, by first getting two seats and placing them lengthwise, then I spread upon them my shawl, &c., and, finally, having formed out of my overcoat an impromptu pillow, I, with that conscious pride which every man feels, when he has done a good deed that will redound to his creature comforts, stretched myself upon a couch which I had the satisfaction of knowing was the result of my own inventive genius. And now I settled down to court "Nature's soft repose." But like King Henry I found her rather cozy. For what seemed to me ages I tossed about without making any advance in my suit. And when at times I fell into a light doze, I was over and anon aroused by what