

gance had shortly before this time forced on the Great Trek of the Boers from Cape Colony.

Colborne proceeded to Montreal, where he remained till May. He had played a difficult part with courtesy and moderation, and was escorted from Toronto by an admiring crowd, by whose expressions of sincere regret he was moved to an unwonted display of emotion. The affair of the fifty-nine Rectories (really forty-four, for fifteen of the parchments were left unsigned at his departure), for which he has been so much blamed, was carried out in obedience to the Colonial Office, and had been recommended by Lord Goderich in a despatch as far back as April 5, 1832. From Montreal he went to New York, and was on the point of embarking for England when he was recalled to assume the rank of Commander-in-Chief of the troops in the two Provinces, with the local rank of Lieut. General. "The moral influence of the presence of Sir John Colborne in Canada was equal to the arrival of ten thousand disciplined troops," says Mr. Kingsford. (*History of Canada*, Vol. x, p. 4.) The rising in Lower Canada was put down with skill and success, and Colborne's crushing victory at St. Eustache on Dec. 14, 1837, was followed by a policy of conciliation which did him the greatest credit. Bitter passions had been aroused. The brutal murder by the French-Canadians of Lieutenant Weir of the Thirty-second Regiment had enraged the regulars, and at St. Eustache they had hunted the rebels through the burning streets with the cry: "Jock Weir, lads; remember Jock Weir." But not a man perished on the scaffold, and Colborne allowed even the murderers of Weir to be tried and acquitted by a French-Canadian jury. Then came the meteoric career of Lord Durham, whose extraordinary conduct ruined his own reputation as completely as his magnificent report brought political liberty to Canada. On Nov. 1, 1838, he was succeeded by Colborne, who finally took office as Governor-General on Jan. 16, 1839. A second outbreak followed on Durham's departure; Colborne quickly and completely crushed the rebels at Beauharnois, but this time, much against his natural inclination, he felt compelled to make a severe example. British subjects had been murdered; the property of loyalists had been wantonly destroyed; these things could not be passed over. "Ay," said a grim old Lowland Scot of Oliver Cromwell, "he garred kings ken they had a lith in their necks." Colborne determined to impart the same knowledge to French-Canadian rebels. Twelve finally perished, of whom six were proved to have been directly concerned in the murder of Walker at La Tortue on the night of Nov. 3, 1838. On October 19 he was succeeded by Mr. Poulett Thompson (afterwards Lord Sydenham), and a few days later finally sailed for England. On Dec. 14 of the same year he was created Lord Seaton of Seaton in Devonshire; on his death the title passed to his eldest son, James Colborne, who served with distinction in the army, rising to the rank of Major-General, and holding the position of Military Secretary in Ire-