

of trade, and many of them were bought up on speculation. The proprietors now petitioned to have the island made a separate government, and governor Walter Patterson and officers were sent out in 1770, there being only five resident proprietors and 150 families on the island. In 1773 the first colonial legislature met. In November 1775, two armed American vessels plundered Charlotte Town, and carried off the governor, surveyor-general, and a number of the council. Upon reaching the American headquarters however, Gen Washington severely reproved the captains, and sent back the prisoners and their property, with great kindness and many expressions of regret.

Governor Patterson's administration extended to 1789. He made some exertions to promote settlements, but most of his term of office was embittered by quarrels with the proprietors about quit-rents due the crown. He was succeeded by General Fanning, a native of the United States, and who was mostly absorbed in endeavoring to acquire a large landed estate in the island. In this he succeeded, gaining at the same time the reputation of being the most severe landlord in the colony. Fanning's successor, Gov. Desbarres, though aged, was a man of liberality and talents, and the colony flourished under his administration. He was succeeded, in 1813, by Charles Douglas Smith, Esq., a brother of the celebrated naval commander Sir Sydney Smith; a man of an arbitrary and violent temper, who involved himself in a series of bitter quarrels with the assembly and other colonial officers, which resulted in his removal. Col. Ready was appointed in his place, in 1824. The remaining governors are as follows: Sir Aretas Young, appointed 1831; Sir Charles Augustine Fitzroy, 1837; Capt. H. Vere Huntley, 1840; Sir D. Campell, 1850; Sir Alexander Bannerman, 1851; Sir Dominic Daley, 1851, and George Dundas, Esq., 1858.

A good measure of the growth and prosperity of the island is afforded by the progress of the population. This was, in 1758, about 6,000; in 1802, 20,671; in 1822, 24,600; in 1825, 28,600; in 1833, 32,292; in 1841, 47,034; in 1848, 62,678; in 1851, 90,000. While the Duke of Kent was commander of the forces in Nova Scotia, he did much for the island, organizing a provincial force of cavalry and infantry, and causing the erection of efficient batteries for the defense of Charlotte Town; so that during the wars with France from 1792 to 1815, it was never molested by any enemy.

A measure which gave a very great impulse to the enterprise and