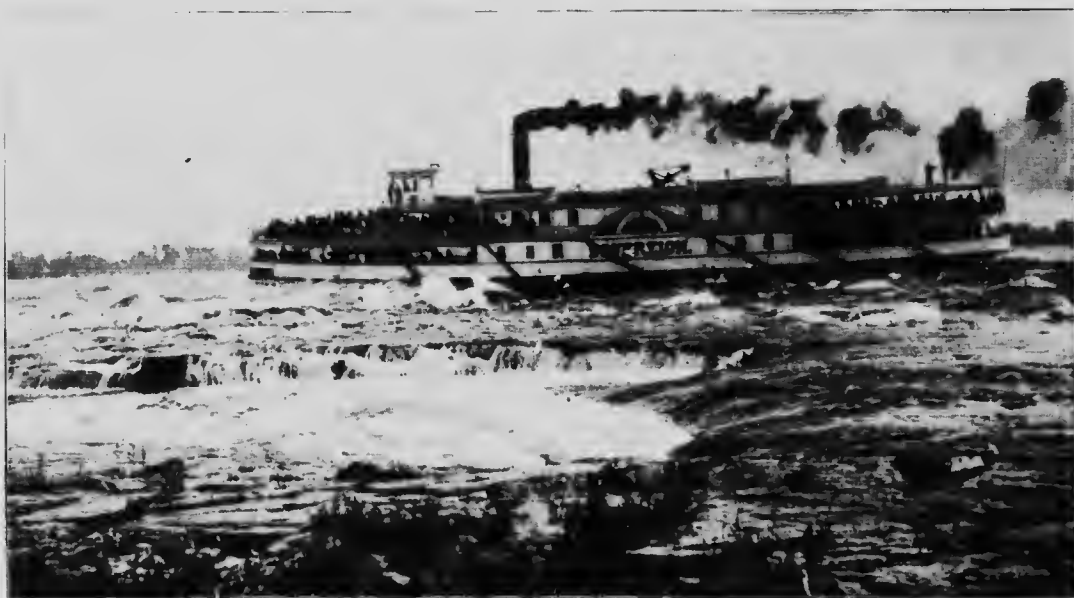


active and exacting service in every sea on the globe.

The war was, in some respects, one of the most remarkable on record, resulting in a succession of defeats and but few successes for the invaders of Canada. Army after army of the Americans was captured outright or worn down and expelled, and when the treaty of peace was signed at Ghent, December 24, 1814, there was not an United States soldier remaining in Canada; the British flag flew over Michigan and part of Maine; Washington, the capital of the Republic, was in ashes, the mercantile marine of the United States had been swept from the ocean, and every part of the country was closely blockaded. There was not a single reference in the treaty to sailors' rights, the right of search or

injustice or incapacity took advantage of the liberties they enjoyed under the British flag to agitate, and they became the nucleus of an active and not always well-advised anti-official party which soon attracted to itself the whole mass of the disaffected and noisy. This party received encouragement from sympathizers in the United States, and in 1837 and 1838, the very natural dissatisfaction at the prevailing state of affairs found expression in open rebellion in both Upper and Lower Canada. The ill-organized and invariably badly-led forces of the rebels were dispersed with comparatively small loss of life by British regulars and Canadian volunteers, and several more or less desperate filibustering expeditions led across the lines by United States sympathizers easily driven back. The leaders of



Shooting the Lachine Rapids just above Montreal, a favorite Evening Diversion

any of the other fine theories which were the ostensible reason for the declaration of war by the United States. Napoleon was a prisoner on the Island of Elba.

Canada's war for independence well over, the Canadians entered again into the fight for responsible government. Friction arose between the two provinces, and in 1822 a union of the two was suggested. The constitution of the government resulted in the development of a bureaucratic and autocratic official class who proved equally obnoxious to the French in Lower Canada and to the English-speaking colonists of Upper Canada. The governors, being closer in touch with the official class than with the mass of the people sided with the former. Those of the people who specially suffered from official

the rebellions in both provinces escaped across the lines, several of their more active lieutenants were executed, and others were transported, later to have their sentences commuted.

The dissatisfaction in Canada had been the subject of official investigation by the Colonial Office before the rebellion; a more determined effort to ascertain the facts and get at the bottom of the trouble was made after the settlement of the uprising. In 1840 the British Parliament passed the Act of Union by which Upper and Lower Canada were again united under a generous system of responsible government, the control of all public revenues being vested in the representatives of the people.

Meantime, the advisability of a confederation of the various British colonies in North America