

useless, were won over to the "loyal" side, from time to time, by appointments or promises of preferment; and Papineau sometimes found his strongest antagonists among deserters from his own camp.

It is a curious fact, however, that when the insurrection took place its real leaders were Wolfred Nelson, an Englishman; Thomas Storrow Brown, a Scotchman, and E. B. O'Callaghan, an Irishman.

In 1822, Papineau and John Neilson went to England and succeeded in inducing the British Parliament to throw out a bill having for its object the union of the two Canadas. The grievances of the Lower Canadians continued to accumulate. The clergy preached submission, and the Governor's party spoke of Papineau and his followers as "rebels." Mr. Papineau was re-elected Speaker when parliament met in 1827, but the Earl of Dalhousie, still Governor, refused to approve the choice of the assembly, which would elect nobody else and the result was that the Governor was recalled by the British Government, and his successor, Sir James Kempt, was sent out to approve, in a speech prepared for him in London, the choice of the assembly. A special committee of the British House of Commons made a report admitting the justice of Mr. Papineau's interpretation of the right conferred upon the Canadian Legislature by the Constitution of 1791, but Her Majesty's Ministers never awoke from their lethargy until the news of the insurrection and the battles at St. Denis and St. Charles reached them. Then they came to the conclusion that the only way to retain Canada in possession of the British Crown was to grant to the people the legislative powers which they demanded.

Papineau was the great popular leader of his day. While Dalhousie and Gosford were the upholders of misrule, he was the champion of colonial self-government. For years he refused the salary of one thousand

pounds offered him, contrary to law, by the executive, although he had abandoned his legal practice, and his Seigniorial yielded no revenue. In the early years of his Speakership he accepted the salary fixed by law as provision for his support. "With one-half," says Brown, "he maintained and educated his family: the other half, with little thought for prospective private requirements, was expended in aid of an ill-supported liberal press, and in those numerous calls of which public men who have not their hands in the public treasury know the cost." The great mass of his countrymen supported him nobly with their votes, and his will, proclaimed in parliament and from a hundred platforms, was law with the French-Canadian masses. Spurning all efforts at compromise, and offers of official preferment, he struggled with voice and pen for political liberty for his compatriots, and his power and earnestness carried down all opposition. Adapting Dean Swift's advice to the Irish, to burn everything that came from England, except coals, Papineau exhorted the Canadians to abstain from the use of all duty-paying articles, in order to diminish the revenue, which he said was only collected to be stolen. Peaceful popular demonstrations greeted him wherever he appeared, but he never advocated violent measures, and discountenanced the preparations for an armed insurrection. He only asked what in the end was cheerfully conceded by Great Britain to all her colonies. When the younger men of his party lost patience and prepared to defend themselves and their leader against arrest, they formed an organization called the "Sons of Liberty." Thomas Storrow Brown was made general of the military branch of the organization. A meeting held in Montreal on the 6th November, 1837, led to riots, arrests for sedition and a proclamation of martial law, and Papineau went to the Richelieu district, where Brown and Nelson already had

prepared execution arrest.

Governor utmost the procure r his compa on the 7th Governor Dominic Edward Is who was Governme that Papin his antag in England that Mr. Canada, al I do not differed tion of C sisted or which I although sions I w done so. desired t at Quebec considere for Mont Had he n bec how r political have avo recall wit conversat ineau, in ed sentin which re honor to and to h meet him to him with my him, sho would be to receive Another which th upon the Canada i century, T. Fred.