

honored guest of English noblemen,* he appears at no disadvantage, sips their noble wine unawed, cosily seated at their mahogany. It must be borne in mind that in 1810 Lord Castlereagh and Lord Liverpool had their hands pretty full with continental politics, perhaps too much so, to heed poor distant Canada.

Shortly after the arrival at Quebec, of the Earl of Durham, viz., on the 20th July, 1838, the Hon. H. W. Ryland expired at his country seat at Beauport, aged 68 years. Mount Lilac then reverted to his son, George Herman Ryland, Esq., now Registrar at Montreal, who added much to the charms of the spot. It was that year offered to the Earl of Durham for a country seat, but his Excellency had cast his lot in Quebec. Mr. Ryland occupied it till his removal from the Quebec to the Montreal Registry Office. Some few years back the property was purchased by Mr. James Dinning, of Quebec, who reserved for himself the farm, one hundred and five acres in extent, and sold in 1856, the house and twenty-three acres thereunto attached, to a wealthy and whimsical old ironfounder of Quebec, Mr. John H. Galbraith. This thrifty tradesman, in order to keep his hand in order, like Thackeray's hero, continued the smelting business even under the perfumed groves of Mount Lilac, and erected an extensive grapery and conservatory, and a foundry as well; the same furnace blast thus served to produce, under glass, fragrant flowers,—exquisite grapes,—melting peaches, as well as solid pig iron and first class stove

* Mr. Ryland to Sir J. H. Craig, K. B.,

London, 14th August, 1810.

Dear Sir,—I yesterday had the honor to dine with the Earl of Liverpool at Coombe Wood; the party consisted of His Lordship, Lady Liverpool, Lord and Lady Bathurst, Lord Aspley and his sister, I believe, Sir Joseph and Lady Banks, Mr. Peel, the Under-Secretary of State, and a lady whose name I do not recollect.

I had some conversation with Mr. Peel, before dinner, concerning the state of things in Canada, and I was mortified to find that he had but an imperfect idea of the subject.

He told me that he had read Lord Grenville's dispatch of October, 1789, to Lord Rochester, which I had recommended to his attention, and he seemed to think a re-union of the two Provinces a desirable object.

H. W. RYLAND.

—*Christie's History of Canada.*