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NELSON AT QUEBEC.

AN EPISODE IN THE LIFE OF THE GREAT BRITISH ADMIRAL.

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IT is worthy of observation that the local history of the Capital of Canada furnishes not even an allusion to the visits of England's most renowned sea-captain, which occurred in the year 1782. Already noted for distinguished services, regarded, both by superiors and inferiors in rank, as the most promising young officer of the British Navy, and idolized by the lieutenants, middies and tars who served under him, it might have been expected that his advent to Quebec, and his stay there of several weeks' duration, would have attracted considerable notice in colonial society, and that the printed records of the time would have presented some interesting particulars of that period of the career of the illustrious Admiral.

But such was not the case. We search in vain the columns of the *Quebec Gazette*—then the only newspaper printed in Canada—for a mention of this wonderful man's visit. Not a line do we find announcing the arrival or the departure of 'H. M.

frigate *Albemarle*, 28, Captain Horatio Nelson : nor, later, when the minds of men throughout the civilized world were stirred by the news of his glorious conquests at *Aboukir* and *Copenhagen*, and of his crowning victory of *Trafalgar*, where, by the sacrifice of his valuable life, he put an end, for ever, to the menace of an invasion of the British Isles by the disciplined hordes of Napoleon I., can we discover, in the numerous and voluminous accounts of his early career, which were then published, a single allusion to the fact of his having once, perhaps often, visited our Canadian old city.

The omission is all the more remarkable because the coming and going of many military and naval officers, who have long since been forgotten, were duly chronicled, during the interval between the breaking out of the American revolutionary war and the arrival of Prince William Henry, in 1787. We have all the particulars of that Prince's arrival and sojourn in the colony—himself a naval officer who served un-