

## LIFE AND TIMES OF SIR A. T. GALT

been besieged by so persistent, ingenious and peremptory an agent, or by one who found it so difficult to repress his anger at the procrastination and the bungling of some of the clerks who posed as Mr. Mother Country. A Board of Commissioners had sat at York in 1820 and examined the claims in a cursory fashion. The British Treasury had paid some £9000 in settlement of such as were approved and were of the nature of direct charges; the province of Upper Canada had paid about the same amount out of the proceeds of the estates forfeited for treason. Over £200,000 remained. In 1822 Galt proposed, after much parleying, that £100,000 should be paid by a loan raised by the United Kingdom and charged jointly, as to both principal and interest, to the United Kingdom and to Upper Canada; on these terms he could readily find lenders in London and Glasgow. Lord Bathurst agreed, but the instructions drafted in the Colonial Office provided for virtually two loans, one of £50,000 guaranteed by the United Kingdom, and one of £50,000 raised by the province upon its own security, at five per cent. With money high and no definite revenues available for paying the interest, it was impossible to raise an unguaranteed loan at this rate, and the negotiations failed. Meanwhile the Treasury agreed to pay at once £57,412, 10/, or twenty-five per cent of the claims, and declared that as soon as the province had provided an equal amount it would be prepared to make such further grants as were necessary, *pari passu* with provincial grants. Later, this was generously modified to an agreement to pay £50,000 as soon as the province would provide the interest upon a loan of equal amount, either by new taxes or by reducing the annual grant made by the United Kingdom toward expenses of the province. The legislature of Upper Canada declined to impose these additional duties, in view of the state of trade and of the unfairness of throwing part of Upper Canada's burden

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