

Until measures were taken, in 1872, to collect them, portions more or less considerable existed in London, Paris, Rouen, Madrid, Venice, Amsterdam, St. Petersburg, Washington Boston, Quebec, Three Rivers, Montreal, Ottawa, Kingston, Toronto.

Quebec, the citadel of French power in the new world nearly three centuries ago, as such was supplied by the French king with a complete set of public officials, from a magnificent viceroy to a humble water bailiff, without omitting a hangman.

She necessarily became the depository of the innumerable official documents, despatches, commissions, maps, plans and correspondence, affecting the relations of the mother-country with her pet colony.

It was necessary to provide for the civil and military administration of the new dependency in every branch of the public service.

The litigious character of her Norman and Breton peasantry very soon called forth a large outfit of judicial officials, whilst her peculiar position as the key, the bulwark of French dominion in North America, required defensive works and the appointment of a military staff adequate to its defence.

For more than two hundred years, an object of jealousy to the surrounding Indian tribes, as well as a menace to the sturdy, progressive, but unwarlike British colonies beyond the