

for the city cows, styled by the early French *La Vacherie*. In a trice we reach Dorchester bridge, the second one, built there in 1822—the first, opened with great pomp by His Excellency Lord Dorchester in 1789, having been constructed a few acres to the west, and called after him. The bridge, as a means of crossing from one shore to the other, is an undoubted improvement on the scow used up to 1789.

One of the first objects on quitting the bridge and diverging westward, towards the Charlesbourg road, on the river bank, is the stately, solid, antique mansion of the late Mr Chs. Smith, who at one time owned nearly all the broad acres intervening between this house and *Gros Pin*. The area took, for a time, the name of Smithville and was inherited by several members of his family, who built cosy cottages thereon. These green fields fringed with white birch and spruce plantations, are watered by the St. Charles, the *Kahir-Koubat*\* of ancient days. In rear of one of the first villas, *Rinafield*, owned by Geo. Holmes Parke, Esq., runs the diminutive stream, the *Lairat*, at the confluence of which Jacques-Cartier wintered in 1535-6, leaving there one of his ships, the *Petite-Hermine*, of 60 tons, whose decayed oak timbers were exhumed in 1843 by Jos. Hamel, City Surveyor of Quebec. A very remarkable vestige of French domination exists behind the villa of Mr Parke—a circular field (hence the name Ring-field) covering about twelve acres, surrounded by a ditch, with an earth work about twenty feet high, to the east, to shield its inmates

\* *Kahir-Koubat* "a meandering stream." Ahatsistari's house (formerly Poplar Grove, the homestead of L. T. McPherson, Esq.), on the north bank of the St. Charles, is now called *Kahir-Koubat*. Here, formerly, dwelt, we are told, Col. De Salaberry, the hero of Chateaugay, until 1814.