

# CHRONICLES OF CANADA,

OR A

CONCISE HISTORY OF THE LEADING EVENTS

IN THE OLD PROVINCES OF THE

## NEW DOMINION.

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### ORIGIN OF THE WORD "CANADA."

Some suppose the origin of this name to be from the Indian word of the Iroquois language *Ka-na-ta*, signifying a village or collection of huts, a word used by Brant in his translation of the Gospel of St. Matthew to signify a village. Another supposition is that when the Spaniards visited this country previous to the French, in search of gold and silver, and finding none, they often repeated the word *Aca nada* (there is nothing,) or *Il Capu di nada* (the Cape with nothing—they were in search of—in it.) After their departure the French arrived, and the Indians who wanted none of their company, and supposing they were Spaniards, on the same errand, were anxious to inform them that their labour was lost by tarrying in the country, and so incessantly repeated to them this word. The French, supposing this continually recurring word was the name of the country, gave it the name Canada.

### ORIGIN OF THE WORD "ACADIA."

The aboriginal Micmacs of Nova Scotia, being of a practical turn of mind, were in the habit of bestowing on places the names of the useful articles found in them, offering to such terms the word *A-ca-die*, denoting the local abundance of the particular objects to which the names referred. The early French settlers supposed this common termination to be the name of the country, and applied it as the general designation of the region now comprising the Lower Provinces of British America, as distinguished from Canada.