



ISLE AUX NOIX.

This is a small island in the Sorel, important to this country as a military outpost in the direction of the United States. It is strongly fortified, and commands the outlet of Lake Champlain. Its surface is not varied, but is low and marshy, especially on the northern side, where the wild fowls gather in the shooting season, and offer fine sport to the lovers of such amusement. The French occupied this island in 1759, when they fled from Chimney Point. They raised fortifications along its shores, and considered it a strong place. They named it in reference to the great number of walnut and hazel trees that were found growing there. They only retained the control of the island a short time;—Lord Amherst dispossessed them in 1760, while on his way to invest Montreal.

During the war in 1775, Isle aux Noix was used in common by English and American troops as a stopping-place, while moving up and down the Lake; and it was here that the officers of both armies consulted on matters of importance. In 1813, the English Government ordered strong fortifications to be constructed all along the island, and sent a strong party to occupy the garrison.

The events of those times interest us all. The recollections which gather round Isle aux Noix, belong equally to the French, the English, and the American—and the sight of its long line of ramparts awakens in each, associations at once pleasing and patriotic. Our forefathers acted a brave part