

the best quality of clothing, blankets hats, stationery, and a long list of necessary articles, and received only shoddy and shams, then our system was not the best. If we cost half a million of lives, when by some other course we could have conducted the war as effectively and lost but a hundred thousand, then our system was not the best. If our war cost six hundred millions of dollars, when it need not have cost more than two hundred millions, then our system was not the best.

A CENTENARIAN.

On Saturday last we enjoyed a celebration such as it was never our pleasure before to enjoy, and may never be again—the celebration of the one hundredth birthday of Mrs. Bogart of Adolphustown. So rare an instance of longevity seldom occurs, and as the venerable lady has been for more than two generations a resident of this country and very widely known, it was resolved to commemorate her centenary, with more than usual festivities. It had been arranged that the relatives and friends should meet in a beautiful grove in Adolphustown, on the farm where she had nearly all her life time resided, so as to give ample space for all who wished to attend so rare a celebration. Not much less than 1,000 persons were present during the day, nearly 400 of whom were related to the heroine of the occasion. A steamer was chartered especially to bring a load from Bellville, where a large number of her descendants reside, another steambent came from Picton, and another from Napanee, each bearing its quota of friends and acquaintances. A band was also in attendance and a photographer. Everyone seemed anxious to do honor to a lady whose name and virtues have been familiar to so many in this county from the days of infancy.

Mrs. Bogart was the eldest daughter of James Lazier, and was born in New Jersey, near New York, in 1772 while it was yet a British province. With her father she came to Canada in 1790 and settled in Adolphustown, where a small company of the United States Empire Loyalists had previously located. The family soon after moved near North Port, in Prince Edward County, where numbers of the relatives yet reside. The mode of travel in those days and the difficulties and hardships of the journey from New York to Canada, would be an interesting chapter. The idea of a steambent had not yet been conceived, and the dream of a railway no one had entertained. By small boats the journey was accomplished up the Hudson, and then the many hundred miles of travel through the wilderness to Oswego, involved fatigue and dangers such as few young ladies of 18 would now feel able to face. At 24 years of age she was married to Abraham Bogart, an energetic young man of Adolphustown, one of the U. E. Loyalists who left New York and came to Canada by way of Quebec after the close of the American Revolution. She is represented at that time as being one of the prettiest young women of the Province. The youthful pair reached their new home on the Bay of Quinte in a boat, and set up house keeping in a log house, 75 years ago. She has never moved from near the same location since. She has survived her husband 20 years. Their offspring to the present time has been 11 children, 45 grand children, and 86 great grand children, making in all 142 descendants, a great proportion of them are now living. The sons have been very respectable enterprising men, and most of them possessing considerable

wealth, such as a mother might well look upon with honest pride and thankfulness. Freely the blessings of a ripe old age, with years of peace, surrounded by her children and her children's children, to the third generation are hers. She was always highly respected and beloved by all who knew her—a woman of great energy and industry, and real piety. She still retains her strength and buoyancy of spirits to a remarkable degree, and still sews and knits with wonderful industry. The events of half a century ago seems fresh in her mind and she loves to converse of them.

As she was brought on the ground on Saturday, a small platform had been erected covered with a rich carpet and here on her throne, she held a reception such as few Queens have ever given. Surrounded by over two hundred of her relations, by birth or marriage, and by the descendants of her former neighbors and friends, to the number of many hundreds more, it was truly wonderful to observe how well she seemed to know them all and how cheerful and how delighted she was to meet them. It has been feared that there would be too much nervous excitement for one of such great years on so trying an occasion, but it was well remarked that "she was born before nerves came into fashion." Though she remained some hours in the woods, there seemed to be but little fatigue such as other of half her years complained of. At a later stage a photographic group was taken with the venerable mother in the centre, supported on either hand by a brother, each just past four score years, and behind them by the sons and their children, while grouped at her feet were almost scores of her great grand children. We never before witnessed such a family group. May she be surrounded by an unbroken family when all the days of her earthly pilgrimage are past.

At a later stage two poems prepared for the occasion, were read by her grandson, Rev. G. Meacham, A. M. of this town. It is our purpose to publish one or both of those in a future issue, afterwards an appropriate speech was delivered by W. W. Dean Esq., of Bellville, another grandson, after which the company dispersed. To give an idea of the wide extent from which her descendants had come to celebrate the birthday, we give the location of those present—Chicago, Toronto, Chatham, Lindsay, Picton, Belleville, Napanee, and the various townships of the surrounding countries.—*Napanee Express*.

GERMAN PLANS FOR STRENGTHENING THE FORTIFICATIONS.

Strasburg July 3, Correspondence of the London Echo.

Gen. Ducrot with serious persistence, urged upon Louis Napoleon the necessity of erecting detached forts around this city; but then the Emperor and his men of war, were so thoroughly convinced of the "Military promenade to Berlin" character of the war projected by them, that they looked upon the erection of forts round Strasburg as a foolish work of supererogation. The German Government was of a different opinion. Field Marshal Moltke was, accordingly, charged last year with the task of devising means to render Strasburg as unassailable as Metz. I think, I have pretty good authority for asserting that he fixed upon sixteen different points round the city for the erection of a series of detached forts thereon. These points are all of them situated some

which besides the invaluable advantage of five or six English miles from the city, shielding Strasburg in future from the horrors of another bombardment, will also permit the widening of the present girdle by about two English miles all around, and will then afford ample room for a very considerable extension of the place. With the immense natural advantages of position, the old Argenport, or "city on the crossing," may be expected to double and treble its present population.

Of the sixteen forts projected, five only have been taken in hand as yet, to wit, Reichstetten, Susselweirsheim, Niedorhausbergen, Oberhausbergen, and Wolfisheim. It is intended, in the first place, to push the present girdle on the north of the city about two English miles outward up to the canal which connects the Ill with the Rhine. A port is to be constructed here, and a new canal to facilitate the conveyance of men and material over from Kehl. On the eastern front an extensive fortified camp is to be constructed, capable of accommodating an army of 200,000 men. The five forts now taken in hand will secure also the connection between their camp and the city of Strasburg. The earthworks of these five forts are sufficiently advanced now to allow the masonry work to begin. To day being the anniversary of Field Marshal Moltke's final decision on the projected plan had been originally fixed for the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the works in the Susselweirsheim Fort. For some reason or other, however, known only to the highest military authorities here this ceremony has been postponed until to-morrow.

The fort of Reichstetten situated about five English miles north east from the new girdle, will command the road to Lauterburg on the east, and the line to Paris on the west, also two new projected lines, intended the one to connect the forts among themselves, the other to connect them with the city. About two English miles from Reichstett lies the fort of Susselweirsheim, partly on the road to Wissenburg, partly on the railway to Paris. A thousand yards south east of Susselweirsheim lies the fort of Lower Hausbergen, on the road from Strasburg to Buaweller; while the forts of Upper Hausbergen and Wolfisheim, lastly, command the Sarve and Paris roads and the Brussels canal.

Even these forts will suffice to render Strasburg very unassailable, at least on the north side, from which the most effective assaults were directed against the city in August and September 1870. All the new forts, the five already in course of erection, as well as the other 11 to be taken in hand at a later period, will be constructed in the star form. Breissach is also to be made into a first class fortress, with a strongly fortified bridge across the Rhine. A railway line over Freiburg to Utmand Donauesthingen, will secure the free connection and communication of the fortress with Trans Rhenish Germany.

The line Metz Didonboten, more especially Metz itself, is already as strong now as to be all but unassailable. Still the Germans are indefatigably at work there also to make doubly sure.

With Strasburg Breissach, and Metz Didenhofen thus almost absolutely secured against the remotest chance of a successful attack upon them, and affording ample shelter to some 500,000 to 600,000 men it will be some well nigh out of the range of possibilities that France should madly rush into the renewal of the war for the recovery of her lost provinces.