

number of "towns" with larger populations than some of the "cities," for example, Valleyfield with over 11,000, and St. Louis de Mile End with almost 11,000, and Westmount with nearly 9,000.

*Conclusions.*

On the whole a study of the municipal institutions of the province of Quebec discloses the fact that they are a product of British rule. The Canadians of French descent, forming in 1901 eighty per cent. of the total population, have shown since the period of 1837-40 a constantly growing interest in local administration, and have realized in that field a satisfactory measure of success. Possessing large powers of initiative, the bigger towns, such as St. Hyacinthe, Valleyfield, Three Rivers, Sorel, and not a few of the smaller ones, have begun to adopt those modern appliances for light, sanitation, and public utility which distinguish progressive communities. As to borrowing powers, the legislature still retains full authority. Rightly exercised, this must prove a safeguard against possible extravagance. Montreal, with its annual expenditure of nearly four millions of dollars, is the only city of its class in the province, and in its occasional struggles with corporate interests has frequently illustrated the serious problems incidental to the utilization of public franchises. In this respect the history of Montreal cannot but be an important object lesson on the dangers to which the smaller towns and villages will be exposed in the course of their development. It is to be hoped that in their relations with the legislature the evils of "log-rolling," elsewhere so notorious and baneful, may be escaped.