## THE

## CANADIAN MONTHLY

## NATIONAL REVIEW. AND

VOL. 5.]

MAY, 1874.

[No. 5.

## THE OLD FORTS OF ACADIA.

BY J. G. BOURINOT.

of the days of the French régime throughout the Provinces which were once comprised within the ill-defined and extensive limits of Acadia, and are now known as Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. These memorials must be sought among a few communities speaking a language sadly degenerated from the Norman and Breton French of their ancestors, in a few grass-covered mounds, or in the names of many of the bays, nvers, and headlands of the Acadian country. Port La Tour, on the western coast of Nova Scotia, recalls the time when the high-spirited, courageous Frenchman, the rival of the treacherous D'Aulnay, was labouring to establish himself on the peninsula. The Gaspereau was the name given to a rapid steam, which winds its way through the very garden of Nova Scotia, by the ancestors of that hapless people whom a relentless destiny, and the mandate of an inexorable Government, snatched from their old homes

HE tourist will find many memorials in "the sweet Acadian land." The island of Cape Breton, which once bore the proud name of "Ile Royale," still wears the more homely and also more ancient name which was given to its most prominent Cape by some of those hardy Breton sailors who, from the very earliest times, ventured into the waters of the northern Continent. Louisbourg still reminds us of the existence of a powerful fortified town, intended to overawe the English in America and guard the approaches to the Laurentian Gulf and River. The Boularderie Island is a memento of a French Marquis, of whom we would never have heard were it not for the fact that his name still clings to this pretty green island which he once claimed as his seigneurie. The Bras d'Or yet attests the propriety of its title of "the Golden Arm," as we pass through its lovely inlets and its expansive lakes, surrounded by wooded heights and sailing farms.

The French had at best but a very pre-