

the royal family of the day, and which I should certainly have given somewhere or other in the pamphlet of 1890, had I at that time been in possession of it; especially, as the name of its writer is to some extent associated with the local nomenclature of Ontario. The manuscript document in question is an autograph letter from no less a personage than Queen Charlotte, consort of George III., and written throughout by her own hand. It would appear that it had been the Queen's custom to present to Sir Joseph, through Lady Banks, at the close of the year, the homely gift of a Christmas cake. In 1813, as Sir Joseph had been suffering from a severe attack of gout, the Queen forwards to him along with the cake a recipe for the malady which she affirms had been effectual in the case of a certain gentleman whom she names. This recipe consisted, strange to say, of a charm, supplied from Golconda, in the East, and procured thence at the special request of the Queen. The whole document reads as follows. It is addressed to Lady Banks and is dated at Windsor, Dec. 19, 1813:

"The Queen sends Lady Banks a Christmas cake, which she hopes Sr. Joseph will find as much to his taste as the one of last year.

"She also accompanies it with a Charm for the Gout, the Effect of which, if report speaks Truth, is wonderfull. Colonel Strangways, uncle to Lord Ilchester, has been free from that Tormenting Complaint ever since he wore it, which is about nine Months ago, it is to be worn round the Neck, as it is now prepared. It comes from *Golconda*, and was procured for the Queen by a Lady, who by her Desire wrote for it, and the Queen wishes most Sincerely that it may prove as Beneficial to Sr. Joseph as it has given her pleasure to obtain it.

"CHARLOTTE."