1758—and although the Island of Prince Edward (or St. John as it was then known) was not the scene of any actual conflict, it was garrisoned by the French, and one of the theatres of war was in the neighboring Island of Cape Breton. After the fall of Quebec and Louisburg, Prince Edward Island (with the rest of Acadia) was finally ceded to Britain. It was connected with Nova Scotia until 1768 when a separate government was granted. Responsible government was given in 1851, and in 1873 the Island became the baby province of the Dominion of Canada.

Like the rest "of the Maritime" the Island of Prince Edward received its quota of Loyalists. When Shelburne in Nova Scotia—that great city that was to be, founded after the close of the Revolutionary War by those who were not satisfied with the new order of things—collapsed, about one hundred of its inhabitants came to Prince Edward Island, settling mostly on the south shore. The Haydens, and many well-known families of today—thrifty and prosperous citizens of such fine farming districts as Bedeque, Pownal, Vernon River, etc.,—are descendants of those who in 1783 preferred George of England to his namesake of Washington.

Some years ago the little Province had its "Lords" and "Commons"—a Legislative Council of thirteen members and a House of Assembly of thirty. But this was really cumbersome and it was felt that some reduction might be made in the number of law-makers to the financial benefit of, and without any detriment to, the country. Accordingly in 1893, there was an amalgation of the two branches, the new body being called the Legislative Assembly. It consists of thirty members—15 Councillors elected by the property-holders, and the same number of Assemblymen elected by the franchise vote. The arrangement has worked well, and money has been saved. All matters of provincial importance are controlled by the local parliament—the