

its power in North America. It is the magazine from whence this country derives considerable resources, in some of which it even excels the Lower Province. Without the latter, however, it would have no opening for the diffusion of its commerce and productions to foreign parts. The St. Lawrence is the great outlet for Upper Canada. Quebec is the key of all our possessions in that quarter, and is the only port through which the productions of the two provinces can find their way to Europe. While we keep possession of this strong hold, which is now become almost a second Gibraltar, and have the pre-eminence on the lakes and rivers of Canada, neither province can be wrested from us.

These prefatory observations respecting Upper Canada have been called for by the events which have occurred since the publication of the first edition of these Travels. At that time the war was only in embryo, and no particular interest could attach to any place from military events. Since then it has acquired a greater interest by the operations of the war with the United States,