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THE LAST YEARS OF FRENCH DOMINION
AT QUEBEC, 1748-59.

BY J. M. LEMOINE.

(From "Quebec Past and Present," in press.)

THE arrival of Intendant Bigot in 1748, will prepare a new era—the downfall of French Dominion in New France. Patriotism—public spirit—honesty among Quebec officials will henceforward hide their head. For good or for bad, we may expect to find life in the colony a reflex of the doings in the parent state.

War loving France, staggering under reverses in Germany, in the West and East Indies, with an empty treasury, had not the means, even if she had the heart, to defend her distant colony against foreign aggression.

Alas! chivalrous old France of Henry IV., to what depths of infamy thy new masters are dragging thee! Lower

still thou shall have to sink. Thy streets—thy squares—thy palaces, will be yet deluged with blood, ere matters mend ! The arm of Britain will, however, shield the few devoted sons, you may forget, on Canadian shores : for them, no guillotines.

Oppressive taxes were heaped on the working classes in France in 1755, to carry on useless wars, or to pamper court minions. Effeminacy—luxury—unbridled license reigned supreme amidst the higher orders ; open, shameless profligacy at Court. Such it was in the colony, with favoritism super-added. Quebec received her fashions and her officials from France ; the latter came with their vices ; several of these vices were expensive.

The French Sultan, Louis XV., must needs have his har-em ; his gaming tables ; his flaunting mistresses ; his *parc au Cerf*. The turnpike to favor for courtiers lies through the smiles of La Pompadour.

Quebec too shall possess its miniature French Court, on the green banks of the St. Charles. A very high official—the Minister of Police, of Justice, of Finance, will preside over it—Intendant Bigot, whose power on many points was co-equal with that of the Governor of the Colony. This luxurious * official had to provide suitable entertainment for the

* Old memoirs furnish curious details of the fittings of the great Intendant between Quebec and Montreal. The Parliamentary Library at Ottawa, contains a long and interesting MSS, account, written by a French Official of the day, M. Franquet, Inspector of Fortifications in New France, in 1752. Franquet came here with an important mission to perform. He was just the man Bigot thought ought to be "dined and wined" properly. Thus we find the Royal Inspector invited to join Bigot on a voyage to Montreal. The Government Gondola, a long flat bateau, propelled by sails as well as oars, accordingly left the *Cul de Sac*, Quebec, on the 24th July, 1752. It could carry 3,000 lbs. burthen, with a crew of fourteen sailors. In the centre, there was a space about six feet square, enclosed by curtains, and "with seats with blue cushions,"—a dais over head protected the *jolly dogs* inside from the rays of the sun, and from rain. Choice wines, spirits, eatables,—even to ready cash,—everything necessary to human sustenance or pleasure, was in abundance. There was nothing ascetic about the gay, bachelor Bigot. Ladies of rank, wit and beauty, felt it an honor to join his brilliant court, where they met most charming *Cavaliers*,—young officers of the regiments stationed at Quebec. Monsieur Franquet seems to have enjoyed himself amazingly, and describes some curious incidents which occurred at Three Rivers and other stopping places, of the magnificent Intendant. *Vive la Bagatelle !*

mighty of the land, out of the most paltry salary, his Government allowing him to make up the deficiency out of the privilege of trading in the colony. Bigot, with the helping hand of Cadet, Deschenaux, Corpron, Maurin, Estebe, Penis-seault, Breard, Pean, and a crowd of other minions, became a mighty trader.

Honor—loyalty to the King—these were not empty words for the old Canadian *noblesse*,—the Longueuils, the Vaudreuils, and others; Bigot had to look elsewhere for fitting tools. He therefore selected his *personnel*, his working staff, out of the most unscrupulous *parvenus*, who had won favor with the Court Favorite, Madame Pean. Bigot, like his royal master, must have not only a rich palace in the city, with beautiful but unchaste women to preside at his *recherché routs*, *games* and *soirées*, but also a diminutive *Parc au Cerf*, at Charlesbourg, where the amusements of the table and chase were diversified by *Ecarté* or *Rouge et noir*, when other pleasures palled on his senses.

In order to keep up such a luxurious style of living, and make up for gambling losses, Bigot was not long ere he discovered that his salary, added to his profits on trade even on the vastest scale, were quite inadequate.

The gaunt spectre of famine, during the year 1755, was stalking through the streets of Quebec. Of the crowds of Acadians, who about that time sought shelter in and around the capital of New France, no less than 300 had died of starvation, disease and neglect. The starving poor were seen dropping in the streets, from weakness. During these dreadful times, unbounded luxury, sumptuous feasting, riot and gambling (*un jeu à faire trembler les plus déterminés joueurs*) were the inmates of the Intendant's palace. Horse flesh and dry codfish were distributed to the poorer class. The Men of pleasure, the Intendant's agents, all this times defrauded them. The unfortunates, who dared to complain

at the Intendance, were hustled about and treated brutally, by Bigot's *entourage*, intent on fattening undisturbed on the public calamity.

Want soon became so pressing, that the French Court decided to ship to Quebec some scanty supplies. The Intendant had the preparing of the requisitions, the storing and the distribution of the provisions sent out from France for Quebec, Montreal, and elsewhere. This was a golden opportunity, which Bigot and his profligate comrades turned to good account. Bigot, in fact, was in partnership with ever so many public officials, more properly, public robbers.

It was arranged that one of them, Clavery, clerk of Mr. Estebe, should open a general warehouse, next to the Intendance, where the bounty of the French king, filched from the Government stores, was retailed to the famished Quebecers at an enormous advance. This establishment of fraud and plunder, the people appropriately nicknamed "*La Friponne*," the Cheat. Montreal had also a similar warehouse, its "*Friponne*."

[At the surrender of Quebec, Bigot and accomplices having returned to France, were for fifteen months shut up in the Bastille, tried for their frauds, and the following sentences recorded against the leaders:

BIGOT—Perpetual banishment; his property confiscated; 1,000 *livres* of fine, and 1,500,000 *livres* to be refunded.

VANIN—Perpetual banishment; his property confiscated; 1,000 *livres* of fine, and 800,000 *livres* to be refunded.

CADET—Nine years banishment, 500 *livres* of fine, and 300,000 *livres* to be refunded.

PENISSKAULT—Nine years exile, 500 " " 600,000 " " "

MAURIN— " " " " " " " "

CORFON—Condemned to be admonished in Parliament, 6 *livres* to the poor, and 600,000 to be refunded.

ESTEBE—Condemned to be admonished in Parliament, to give 6 *livres* to the poor, and 100,000 *livres* of restitution.

DE NOYAN—Condemned to be admonished in Parliament, 6 *livres* in charities to the poor, with incarceration in the Bastille for the ten offenders, until amounts are paid.]

GENERAL RICHARD MONTGOMERY,—HIS
ATTACK ON QUEBEC,—HIS TOMB IN
NEW YORK.

BY HENRY MOTT.



ON the second Sunday of July, 1875, was buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, Samuel Priestly Taylor, Organist, aged 96 years; and in his interesting biographical memoir, we read that "when General Montgomery was buried in St. Pauls Church, New York, (July 8th, 1818,) Mr. Taylor played the organ."

What a suggestive record is this, the single life time of this gentleman, carrying us back to three years after the declaration of independence, and recalling to our memories, the brave and lamented Montgomery; how few of the busy thousands who daily press along Broadway, New York, think of the perils and hardships of that winter campaign, and the attack on Quebec one hundred years ago.

If as Thomas Campbell sings,

" To live in hearts we leave behind,
Is not to die."

Then in every community where patriotism and bravery are to be found, Richard Montgomery and his associates still live; seeing that the hundredth Anniversary of Montgomery's death is near at hand, and that it is 57 years since the "Mr. Taylor played the organ" on the occasion of his remains being interred at St. Pauls Church, it may be well to notice the event.

The hardships and sufferings of that band of heroes, appear almost incredible, yet Judge Henry, who at the close of the last century, was president of the second judicial district in Pennsylvania, was one of the soldiers in the expedition, and has left us an exceedingly lucid and interesting narrative.

About the middle of August, 1775, a committee of Con-

gress visited Washington in his camp, and a plan was then devised to send a force to Canada, by way of the Kennebec River, to co-operate with Schuyler, already preparing to invade that province by way of the Northern Lakes. Benedict Arnold was then at Cambridge, and as his bravery was well known, and the proposed expedition was exactly suited to his adventurous disposition, Washington appointed him to the command, giving him at the same time a commission as Colonel in the Continental Army. Eleven hundred men were detached for the service consisting of ten companies of Musketeers from New England, and three companies of Riflemen from Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Arnold's field-officers were Christopher Greene, the hero of Red Bank on the Delaware ; Roger Enos, Majors Meigs and Bigelow. The Riflemen were commanded by Captain Daniel Morgan, the renowned leader in subsequent years of the war, hero of the Battle of Cowpens. Amongst other names afterwards prominent in their country's history, we find that of Henry Dearborn, afterwards Major General in the war of 1812 ; and here, says Judge Henry, for the first time came to my view, Aaron Burr, then a cadet.

Arnold and his troops marched (Sept. 9th, 1775,) from Cambridge to Newbury Port, where they embarked (Sept. 18th, 19th,) on board eleven transports for the mouth of the Kennebec. They reached Gardiner in safety, and found 200 batteaux ready for them at Pittston, on the opposite side of the river, carpenters having been sent previously to construct these vessels.

The troops then rendezvoused at Fort Western, opposite the present town of Augusta, this was on the verge of an uninhabited and almost unexplored wilderness, and towards its fearful shadows, these brave men turned their faces. Of their sufferings, Judge Henry records : " They washed their moose-skin moccassins in the river, scraping away the dirt and sands with great care. These were brought to the

kettle and boiled a considerable time, under the vague but consolatory hope that a mucilage would take place. The poor fellows chewed the leather, but it was leather still." They had not received food for forty-eight hours, disconsolate and weary we passed the night.

Major Meigs tell us in his Journal :—

"One or two dogs were killed, which the distressed soldiers ate with good appetite, even their feet and skins." Many men died with fatigue and hunger.

On November 9th, the whole army that remained arrived at Point Levi, opposite Quebec, after one of the most wonderful marches on record, during the space of two months. Thirty-two days they traversed the gloomy wilderness without meeting a human being. Frost and snow were upon the ground, and ice was upon the surface of the marshes and streams which they were obliged to traverse and ford, sometimes up to their arms in water and mud ; yet they complained not, and even women followed in the train of the suffering patriots. It was an effort in the cause of freedom, and the men who thus perilled life and endured pain, deserve the highest praise from posterity.

Arnold resolved to cross the river, and found means to communicate his intentions to friends in Quebec, he was well acquainted with the place and many people there, having been previously engaged there in buying horses and shipping them to the West Indies. Between 30 and 40 birch canoes were procured, and in the night of 13th November, about 500 men landed safely and rendezvoused at Wolfe's Cove, 150 men were still at Point Levi, but it was too late to return for them, in consequence of their operations having been observed by a boat from the Lizard frigate. No time was to be lost, for the garrison would soon be alarmed, so Arnold placing himself at the head of his little band of heroes, scaled the heights where Wolfe had ascended sixteen years

before, and at dawn they stood upon the lofty Plains of Abraham.

But their hearts sank when they saw the castle, and the massy walls that enclosed the garrison, they had no artillery, and nearly half their muskets were rendered useless during their march through the wilderness. They learned too, that reinforcements had been added to the garrison, making an attack a hopeless waste of effort.

The Lieutenant-Governor and Colonel McLean, well knew that Arnold's little army was too weak to attempt an assault, and felt sure that the fierce winds of winter and snow would soon force them from their bleak encampment.

Arnold learned that Sir Guy Carleton, who had retired from Montreal, was approaching Quebec. He also inspected his ammunition and stores, and to his surprise found that nearly all the cartridges were spoiled, hardly five rounds to a man being left fit for use. Finding his attempt vain, by frequent hostile displays upon the heights to draw out the garrison, and learning from his friends in the city that Carleton was near at hand, Arnold broke up his camp, and retired to Pointe aux Trembles, about 20 miles above Quebec, to await the approaching troops of Montgomery. Montgomery landed at Pointe aux Trembles, on 1st of December, his troops reduced to a mere handful. He took command of the combined troops, amounting to only about 900 effective men. The next day, in the face of a heavy snow storm, they started for Quebec, and arrived in sight of the city on the 5th.

The American forces were considerably inferior in numbers to those of the garrison, but this was unknown within the city. For more than three weeks unavailing attempts to make an entrance, and as a last resort, it was resolved to make a regular assault upon the city at different points, which resolution was put into execution on December 31st. The failure of the attack, with the death of Montgomery

are familiar to every reader. As soon as the news reached Congress, it was voted to erect a monument to his memory, which was accordingly done in the front of St. Paul's Church, New York, on which is the following inscription :—

This
monument is erected by order of Congress,
25th of January, 1776,
to transmit to posterity a grateful remem-
brance of the patriotic conduct, enterprise and perseverance
of Major General Richard Montgomery,
who, after a series of success amid the most discour-
aging difficulties, *Fell* in the attack on
Quebec, 31st December, 1775, aged 37 years.

In 1818, a request in behalf of the widow of General Montgomery was made to Sir John Sherbrooke, Governor of Canada, to allow his remains to be disinterred and conveyed to New York. The request was readily acceded to, and Mr. James Thompson, of Quebec, who was one of the engineers at the time of the storming of the city, and assisted in burying the general, also assisted in the disinterment, making an affidavit to the indentivity of the body. He indentified the coffin taken up on June 16th, 1818. The remains were placed in another coffin and deposited beneath the monument.

The following is the inscription :

The state of New York, in honor of
General Richard Montgomery,
who fell gloriously fighting for the independence
and liberty of the United States,
before the walls of Quebec, the 31st of December, 1775 ;
caused these remains of the distinguished hero,
to be conveyed from Quebec, and deposited
on the 8th day of July, (1818,) in St. Paul's Church,
in the City of New York,
near the monument erected to his memory
by the United States.

Such were the men who followed Benedict Arnold, through terrible difficulties and privations, from their quiet homes, and in the midst of snow and the rigor of a Canadian winter, appeared on the heights of Point Levi, to the wondering people of Quebec. Such a man was Richard Montgomery; in this campaign he had every difficulty to contend with,—undisciplined and mutinous troops, scarcity of provisions and ammunition, want of heavy artillery, lack of clothing, the severity of winter, and desertions of whole companies. Yet he pressed onward, and perhaps had his life been spared, he would have entered Quebec in triumph.

It is an honorable characteristic of the spirit of the present age, that projects of violence and warfare, are regarded among civilized States with gradually increasing aversion, but we can look back with pride upon the deeds of brave men.

ON THE REDUCTION OF QUEBECK BY GENERAL WOLFE.

BY A YOUNG AUTHOR.

(From "The Boston Gazette," November 5th, 1759.)



HAIL, auspicious, happy day;
 Let each true-born Briton say,
 Raise your voices, raise them high;
 Let them rend the azure sky:
 Let the trumpet's fierce enlivening sound,
 And the grand majestic noise
 Of thundering Drums; with the shrill voice
 Of Fifes and Hautboys join;
 Fire each breast with gratitude divine,
 Make every valley ring, and every rock rebound.
 Hail auspicious happy day,
 Let each true-born Briton say.

Haughty Monarch check your pride ;
 Call to your aid
 Each angry saint,
 In long procession seek each angry shrine,
 Make at every bead a prayer ;
 With every vow and sad complaint,
 Make bare each Foot ; each Shoulder bare ;
 In lashing Penance join ;
 Invoke your sacred Maid,
 To stop the gap, and heal your bleeding side.
 But hail auspicious, happy day ;
 Let each true-born Briton say.

Behold, proud France ; the flow'ry plain,
 Both far and wide,
 On every side
 Depopulate and cover'd with thy slain,
 Quebeck, whose tow'ring heads and lofty walls,
 Above the rest far shone,
 Like the tall Pine, superior to the lowly shoot ;
 In columns of black smoke, behold her spires
 Involv'd ; while whirling gyres
 Of crackling flame in emulous dispute
 Dance round the tottering pile,
 Which lasts but for a while ;
 It's glory gone ;
 And the whole Fabrick sunk in ruin falls.
 Hail auspicious, happy day ;
 Let each true-born Briton say.

But stop adventurous muse, thy wild career :
 'Tis justice calls ; justice demands a tear
 Th' almighty source of things has now tho't fit
 To mix a bitter portion with our sweet !
 Lest we shou'd give the praise to Man alone
 When the Almighty claims it as his own.

O WOLFE! O generous Man! worthy Regard!
 May thy each Action have a full Reward!
 Sooner shall Brutes their savage nature change;
 Sooner the Dove, the cruel Hawk, pursue;
 Sooner the Infant chase the nimble Doe;
 From its firm centre leap the reeling World;
 Pole clash with Pole, and Stars at Stars be hurl'd,
 Than we forget thy great, thy deathless name,
 To pay the tribute to the Rolls of fame,
 And with due Reverence thy Martial Acts proclaim.
 Bold without Rashness; and with Prudence brave;
 To Liberty and to your King a Slave:
 Glorious in Arms thou shon'st a Foe to France;
 And every one that did her cause advance.
 Honor thou fought'st for; Honor thou desir'd;
 Honor and Liberty thy bosom fir'd;
 And in that glorious cause, illustrious, thou expir'd.
 Tho' short thy Life; untimely tho' thy fate;
 Thy Death was truly noble, truly great.
 As when the Huntsmen range the spacious wood,
 And rouse the martial Beast of royal blood;
 In fallen Majesty see him advance,
 Undaunted at the Spear or shaking Lance.
 Till by degrees incens'd, his shaggy mane
 He shakes, and fill'd with fury and disdain
 Forward he leaps, nor loses Life in vain.
 Thus the brave Wolfe expir'd; and thus he dy'd,
 Magnanimous in Death; while at his side
 The sullen Ghosts of hostile foes were made,
 To wait the Hero, and attend th' illustrious shade.
 Thus while we pay the tribute of our praise,
 May bright cæstrial hosts of Angels raise
 Thy Soul, unspotted, to realms above;
 With joy, transfer it to our glorious Lord,
 There may'st thou meet an ample full Reward,

In that blest place of endless Peace and Love.
Then hail auspicious, happy day ;
May each true-born Briton say.

Ye Sons of Honor, Albion's hardy Race ;
Let WOLFE's great name,
His mighty fame
Possess your manly breasts, and sparkle in each face.
When thundring Cannons roar,
And hosts of foes engage ;
When with impetuous rage
Death grimly stalks, and rolls in human gore,
Let WOLFE, new life inspire, new vigour give,
And WOLFE, tho' dead, yet conquering shall live.
Then hail auspicious happy day,
May each true-born Briton say.

G. B.

*To the Author of the Lines on General Wolfe, in the
"Newport Mercury" of last Tuesday.*

(From "The Boston Gazette," November 5th, 1759.)

Too pregnant nonsense, mounting to a flame,
Taught thee to stretch, thy gross unmeaning brain ;
Shou'd cowards live when destitute of breath,
And heroes perish by the stroke of Death.

N. B.—*To enlighten the Poet, it is tho't that Cowards have
no other way to live but by breathing.*

Red rags, black rags, blue rags, and brown,
The dirtiest currency ever was known—
Sent out by the people's masters,
Who think all their wrongs can be cured with 1837

SHIN PLASTERS

SLAVERY AT QUEBEC.

BY J. M. LEMOINE.

(From "Quebec Past and Present," in press.)

SLAVERY with us, is a thing of the past : it was so we may say, at the beginning of the century. Though the colony can boast of having abolished domestic slavery long before our progressive neighbors succeeded to stamp it out of the "land of freedom," after wading knee deep in the blue blood of the South, its origin and existence at Quebec is not without interest.

The *Relations des Jesuites** tell how in 1628, a black boy from Madagascar was sold at Quebec, by one of the Kertks to one Le Bailly for fifty half crowns—*cinquante écus*. This is the earliest trace of the "peculiar institution" we could discover. Our colonial archives and legislation bear ample provisions, relating to slavery as early as 1689. Leave that year was asked from the French King, and permitted for the importation of slaves from the Indies, on account of the scarcity of labour. This subject engaged the attention of several Canadian writers—Garneau, Jacq Viger, Bibaud, Judge Lafontaine. Sir L. H. Lafontaine, in an exhaustive disquisition to be found amongst the publications of the *Société Historique de Montreal*, sets forth the authorities bearing on the question. After enumerating the *Declarations Royales* and other regulations under French dominion, he quotes the article 47 of the Capitulation of Montreal of 8th Sept., 1760, to show that slavery was maintained and recognised by the Capitulation : Article 47. "The negroes and Panis of both sexes shall remain in their quality of slaves in the possession of the French and Canadians, to whom they belong. They shall be at liberty to keep them in their service in the colony, or to sell them, and they may also continue to bring bring them up in the Roman religion.

* *Relations des Jesuites* for 1632, page 12.
 " " " " 1633. " 115.

"Granted, except those who shall have been made prisoners."

The learned Judge then quotes several judgments,—suits from the records of the Montreal Court House, and calling attention to the numerous advertisements to be found in the files of the old *Quebec Gazette*, touching the sale or desertion of slaves. In the year 1784, amongst others, we find the following :

"To be sold by private sale—A lively healthy negro Wench, between 15 and 16 years of age, brought up in the Province of New York ; understands all sorts of house work, and has had the small-pox. Any person desirous of purchasing such a Wench, may see her at the house of Mr. John Brooks, in the Upper Town, where the conditions of sale may be made known, and if she should not be sold before the 20th instant, she will on that day be exposed to public sale."

Quebec, May 10th, 1784, (*Quebec Gazette*, 13th May, 1784.)

"In 1780, at Montreal, Patrick Langan sells to John Mittleberger, a negro named Nero, by private deed bearing warranty for £60 and Mittleberger in 1788 on this clause of warranty brings suit before the Court of Common Pleas, against Brigadier General Allan McLean."

"The Baron of Longueuil," says Bibaud, "had slaves on his barony and in Western Canada the famous Chief Tyendenaga owned forty slaves."

The Parliament of the Province of Quebec during the 1st Session, on the 28th January, on motion of P. L. Panet, seconded by M. Duval, proposed, and it was unamously carried, that a Bill be introduced "tending to the abolition of slavery in the Province of Lower Canada,"

On the 19th of April, 1793, the House resolved itself into a committee for the same purpose, where strange to say, on

motion of M. de Bonne, carried on a division of thirty-one against three, it was resolved that said Bill do remain on the table. As Mr. Viger has observed, no ulterior proceedings on the subject, seem to have been taken from the 19th April, 1793, to the 19th April, 1799, when it was revived on a petition from divers inhabitants of Montreal, presented by Mr. Joseph Papineau. It is fair to state that though the first move to put down slavery in Canada originated with the Quebec Legislature, it is to the action of the Upper Canada Legislature, especially during its second session held at Newark, near Niagara, on 31st of May, 1793 that the credit of removing this foul stain on civilisation is due, by the introduction of a "Bill to prevent the further introduction of slaves, and to limit the term of contracts for servitude within the Province."

In 1800, the days of the traffic in human flesh had nearly come to a close at Quebec. Wilberforce had proclaimed the emancipation of the blacks, amongst the freemen of England. We find in the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly, about that time, divers bills introduced to erase this blot on civilisation, which finally disappeared in 1803, when Chief Justice Osgoode declared in Montreal, that negro bondage, was at variance with the laws of the country. The Imperial Act 3rd and 4th, William IV., Cap : seventy-three, sanctioned in London, 28th August, 1833, abolished slavery throughout the British Empire, from 1st August, 1834.

OLD COINS, AND HOW THEY ARE MADE.



NUMISMATISTS and coin collectors have good reason to know that nefarious skill is at work in their department. A very old and scarce coin, say of silver, is worth in the Antiquarian market many times its weight in that metal; and hence there is a strong temptation for the cleverly-dishonest to produce coins

which can be sold for as many pounds as they cost shillings.

Curiously enough, this laxity was known to the ancients as well as to ourselves : for Roman coins have occasionally been dug up, some evidently plated, some as evidently washed over with a mere surface of precious metal. At the present time, the Greek islands shelter men who make false dies of ancient coins, as a preliminary to the manufacture of new specimens so doctored up as to pass for old. The trade must indeed be a lucrative one, if the statement is correct that one engraver of these false dies netted two or three thousand pounds from the pockets of Englishmen alone, who innocently purchased the counterfeits at high prices, under a belief in their genuine character. Old Roman coins require to be scanned closely, whenever a high price is asked for them ; it is said that almost every collector has some whose genuineness he doubts, although he has not tests sufficient to settle the matter clearly.

A numismatist, a few years ago, warned collectors to be on their guard concerning half groats and pennies of Richard III.'s reign ; there are but few of them in existence, and imitators have been tempted to enter this field ; the fraudulent specimens are well made, and put on that worn appearance which would be due to a great age.

Much could be said as to the sophistication or imitation of coins, which, on account of their age or rarity, command a market price much beyond their original value ; but the debasement or fraudulent imitation of the current coin has also for ages afforded a field for misapplied ingenuity.

An extant official document, relating to Wells in Somersetshire, describes a curious way of determining the legality and excellence of a current coin called a *teston*, of which there were two varieties, one just worth double the other. The fourpenny *teston* and the twopenny *teston* were current at the same time, and being of the same size, though differ-

ent in alloy, were frequently mistaken for each other. The document to which we allude is an Order in Council addressed to the Corporation of Wells in 1559. Four discreet, honest, and competent persons were to take their station in the market-place, and act as money-inspectors. By whom they were to be accompanied, and in what way to proceed, we will describe in the quaint language of the original. The corporation were directed to select "some Goldsmythe of the beste knolege yee can gette, or some other p'son havinge beste knolege in the matter of moneyes, and shal ther be ready to judge and discerne of all man'r of Testons that anye oure subjectts shal bring unto yone whiche bee of the value of two pence to be striken wyth th'yron havynge the Greyhounde uppon the side of the Teston wheruppon the kyng'e face ys, behind the hedd over the showlders, and th' other Teston of four pence yee shal stryke wyth to' other yron havinge the Portcullice before the face, and so f'wyth redelyv'r the same moneyes to the same p'sons that dyd p'sent them unto you. And ye shal take good regard that yn no wyse doe stamp ane Teston valued at two pence with the stampe of the Portcullice." We may remark that *teston*, *testone*, *tester*, *testern*, and *testril* are all believed to be modifications of the same word, referring to *teste* or *tete*, the head of the sovereign stamped on the coin. The value in England and some foreign countries has ranged from a maximum of twelvecence, to a minimum of twopence.

Before the accession of the present sovereign to the throne, the English silver coins were in a multitude of cases worn so completely smooth and plain, that forgers were tempted to put into circulation smooth discs of silver or alloyed silver, the intrinsic value of which was much below the current value of the real coin. When the overworn silver coins were called in, and sent to the Mint to be remelted, the smooth blanks were of two kinds, genuine and fraudulent. The practical officers at the Mint adopted a singular way of as-

certaining whether any raised device had ever been on these banks: they placed them on red-hot iron plates; when heated to a certain temperature, the fraudulent pieces remained as plain as before; but the worn-down genuine coins presented the device very faintly re-introduced, of a greenish hue; this revival disappeared as the coins cooled down; but lasted long enough for the immediate purpose in view. Collectors themselves adopt a similar plan, when testing old silver coins of which the device is so worn down as to render the reign and date almost illegible; they place them upon a red-hot poker, and watch till the inscription comes temporarily into view.

Macaulay gives a graphic account of the woful state of coinage in the closing years of the seventeenth century. Down to the time of Charles II., the blanks for coins were cut out from sheets by means of shears, and then hammered into circular shape; this circularity was by no means perfect, while the edge was often irregular, and without any legend or milling. One consequence of this was that the dishonest clipped and pared and filed the edges of the coins, and appropriated the fragments of gold or silver thus obtained. The government, on urgent and repeated representations from bankers, merchants, employers of labor, and shopkeepers, caused a machine to be constructed for milling or stamping the edge. But, unwisely, the old coins and the new were allowed to be in circulation at the same time, producing an effect which had not been duly foreseen. "Fresh wagon-loads of choice money came forth from the Mint; and still they vanished as fast as they appeared. Great masses were melted down; great masses exported; great masses hoarded; but scarcely one new piece was to be found in the till of a shop, or in the leathern bag which the farmer carried home from the cattle fair." The gibbet at Tyburn was at work nearly every week, executing wretched creatures, women as well as men, who had been convicted of clipping

the coinage ; but the profits of the nefarious trade were so large that even the terror of the gallows did not act as a cure. One clipper was wealthy enough to offer six thousand pounds as bribe for a pardon. He was unsuccessful ; but, as Macaulay remarks, "the fame of his riches did much to counteract the effect which the spectacle of his death was designed to produce."

The falsification known to be practised at the present day are many in kind. Small bits of metal are punched out of good coin, and melted down till there is enough to sell to a refiner. A sovereign is split in two, some of the inner gold taken away, a thin layer of cheaper metal put in the two halves re-soldered, and the milled edge refurbished up. A well-stamped coin is made, but of gold or silver lower in value than the proper standard. A sovereign is "sweated" or subjected to some process that will take off a little of the good gold, without materially affecting the appearance of the surface.

The above-named methods of falsification are, it is believed, not so much practised now in England as at some former periods ; but the beautiful art of electro-metallurgy is, unfortunately, made to assist roguery in these matters. A case that attracted much attention in London some time back showed how far this is carried. In a busy neighbourhood, sovereigns were tendered for purchases at numerous shops, good silver to be received as balance. The sovereigns were so undoubtedly gold, the "ring" so sound, and the devices so perfect, that the coins were taken without suspicion. But the persons who made the purchase became known to the shopkeepers ; questions were asked how golden sovereigns happened to be so plentiful in such a quarter, an assay of the coins was determined on. One of the sovereigns was found to be good gold, and of the right ring, but was one-tenth short of the proper weight. The police, furnished with a clue, obtained entrance into a squalid room contain-

ing a galvanic battery, sulphuric acid, sulphate of zinc, sulphate of copper, and cyanide of potassium—ascertained by an analytical chemist to be such; besides these, were found in the room bent wires, files, plaster of Paris, emery powder, a board with round recesses sunk in its surface, steel burnishers, small crucibles, a blow-pipe, and other articles. The facts afterwards ascertained showed that the chief culprit was a man who had moved in better society, and possessed considerable knowledge of chemistry and electro-metallurgy. He knew how to take off two shillings-worth of sterling gold from a sovereign, without interfering with the sharpness of the device: and then to restore the lustre in the proper places by means of a steel burnisher. The victims had no other satisfaction than that of bringing the criminal to punishment. A banker would not have been deceived as the shopkeepers were; measuring and weighing would have revealed deficiencies not made manifest by ringing on a counter or testing with a touchstone.

The passing of surreptitious coin is frequently left to be managed by women. We have curious evidence that this was done so far back as two centuries ago. One Catherine Williams, in 1685, made it her parctise "to utter false Guineys at Foxhall and several other landing-places between that and Greenwich, by stopping at such places, and sending her waterman ashore to change her bad Guineys."

CENTENIAL WAIFS.



FOR the following copies of interesting letters, we are indebted to Colonel T. Baily Myers. He is the holder of many valuable letters and documents relative to past Historical events, more particularly the 1775 invasion of Canada, and the war of 1812. In the later his Father, took no inconsiderable part being the Officer in command of 80men, of the 13th U. S.

Regular Infantry, (known as the "Jolly Snorters"), who were engaged in the battle of Chrystler's Farm, coming out of it with only 50 remaining, and himself crippled for life.

The more valorous the Officer, the more noble his character. He never bore the Canadians any malice for the deformity from which he suffered ; on the contrary, proving himself a true soldier, he accepted all the results of war with that equanimity so characteristic of great men. We welcome his son as a contributor to our magazine, and will be happy to publish any further copies of Historical letters, with which he may be pleased to furnish us. In connection with those now published, we may observe, that the writers of two of these were killed in action, within three months of their respective dates, and buried at Quebec, (one being since removed). Though of not much historical interest, they serve to show with what care General Montgomery conducted the invasion, his efforts being to obtain the assistance of the Indians, by bribery, and to *win over* the Canadians, rather than subject them to the horrors of war throughout the campaign.

By John Hamilton, Esq., Commander of His Majesty's ship "Lizard," Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's ships and vessels in the river St. Lawrence, & Colonel of the Battalion of British Seamen at Quebec.

Whereas, the crews of His Majesty's ships & vessels and Merchant ships at Quebec are disembarked to duty as soldiers in the Tarnton, and as I have thought fit to appoint you to act as First Lieutenant, I do therefore, hereby constitute and appoint you First Lieutenant accordingly, in the Third Company of the Battalion of British Seamen, asking and requiring all the Officers and Men, to behave themselves with due Respect and Obedience, to you their said Lieutenant, and you are to execute all tack Orders as you shall

receive from His Excellency, General Carlton, or any other said superior Officers, for His Majesty's service, for which this shall be your order.

Given under my hand at Head Quarters, at
Quebec, the first of December, 1775.

JOHN HAMILTON.

To Mr. Charles Heywood,
hereby appointed First Lieutenant in the Navy
Batallion of British Seamen, at Quebec.

Camp near St. Johns,

SIR,

Sept. 20th, (1775.)

I have the pleasure to acquaint you of the arrival of the New York Artillery Company, and every instant I look for a considerable reinforcement of other troops. The Pay Master General is also arrived with cash. Be so good as to send off a trusty Indian or Canadian to the Caghnawaga Castle with the string of Wampum which the bearer will deliver to you and with the following message :

"Brethren. When I had the pleasure of seeing your Chiefs in my Camp near St. Johns, after our Treaty of Friendship and neutrality was concluded, I told them there was a present from the twelve United Colonies for the Caghnawaga Tribes, consisting of £400 York Money ; but that my Treasurer was not arrived with the money, that I expected him soon and promised to let you know when he came. Conformable to my promise I take the first opportunity of acquainting you that the money is ready and I desire to know when you will come to receive it."

You have I suppose appointed a trusty commissary, he must keep his accounts with the utmost exactness, and be upon oath, as every ration of provisions must be accounted for. Should Colonel Warner want a little cash for his people I can now give it to him. I hope there is the strictest dis-

cipline kept up, that our friends may have no reason to complain of us. I make no doubt you have a good look out towards La Prairie, &c. Should regular troops venture into these roads, I think your woodmen will give a good account of them. Should you have any accounts of their bringing Artillery with them it will be necessary to fell timber across the roads. Tell Major Elmore that I desire Lieutenant Shepperd, who acted as officer of marines on board one of the vessels, may come this day to our camp, he being wanted here as an evidence with respect to Captain Smith. I could wish to see Major Brown if he can be spared for a few hours.

I am, Your most Obedient Servant,

Rich Montgomery

I have taken your corned beef which you shall be reimbursed for with thanks, I wish for a return of the people under your command, particularly Major Brown's party, as perhaps there may be some missing.

Col. Bedel, Officer Commanding,
on the North Side of St. Johns.

Camp South side of St. Johns, 24th Sept., 1775.

SIR,

It is impossible to send you a Marque, perhaps by applying to some of the Regiments you are acquainted with you may get one. Mr. Fink will deliver you twenty Half-Johnhanneses amounting to Sixty-four Pounds seven Shillings for which he has given his Receipt.

By the General's order,

JOHN MACPHERSON,
Aid de Camp.

Col. Bedel,

Commanding on the North Side of St. Johns.

THE MONEY OF CANADA IN OLDEN TIMES.

BY JAMES STEVENSON.



HE first Statute after the Conquest fixing the value of the different Coins circulating in Canada, consisting of Spanish, Portuguese, French, German and English, is supposed to be that of 29th March, 1777, but there is one earlier than that, *vis*: of the 14th September, 1764. In my researches I discovered it in an old Quebec Gazette, and copied it carefully. Here it is :

An ordinance
for regulating and establishing the Currency
of the Province.

By His Excellency James Murray, Esq., Captain General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the Province of Quebec, and of the Territories depending thereon in America, Vice-Admiral of the same, Governor of the Town of Quebec, and Colonel-Comniandant of the second Battalion of the Royal American Regiment of Foot, &c., &c., &c. In Council, this 14th day of September, in the fourth year of His Majesty's Reign, Annogue Domini, 1764.

Whereas His most sacred Majesty, by his instructions to His Excellency, bearing date at St. James's the seventh day of December, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty-Three, hath been pleased to authorize and empower His said Excellency with the advice and assistance of His Majesty's Council to make Rules and Regulations and Ordinances, for the better ordering and well governing of this His Province of Quebec : And whereas it is highly expedient and necessary to fix a certain value upon every species of Coin now in this Colony, and to ascertain the Currency thereof throughout the whole Province, upon one certain and uniform plan, and having maturely considered the several currencies which prevail at this time in the different Colonies and Provinces

upon this continent as likewise the ease and convenience of His Majesty's good subjects of the Province of Quebec; His Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and assistance of His Majesty's Council, and by virtue of the power and authority to him given by His Majesty's Letters Patent, under the Great Seal of Great Britain, hath thought fit to ordain and declare; and His said Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and assistance aforesaid, doth hereby ordain and declare, that from and after the first day of January, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty-five, the following species of Coin shall pass current throughout this whole Province, at and after the several Rates herein mentioned, *viz* :

	Dwt.	Grs.	Q.	℥.	S.	D.
The Johannes of Portugal weighing	18	6	"	4	16	0
The Moydore	6	18	"	1	16	0
The Cardin of Germany	5	17	"	1	10	0
The Guinea	5	4	"	1	8	0
The Louis D'Or	5	3	"	1	8	0
The Spanish or French Pistole	4	4	"	1	1	0
The Seville, Mexico and Pillar Dollar	17	12	"	0	6	0
A French Crown or Six Liver Piece	19	4	"	0	6	8
The French Piece, passing at present for 4s. 6d. Halifax	15	16	"	0	5	6
passing at present for			"	0	4	6
The British Shilling			"	0	4	4
The Pistareen			"	0	1	2
The French Nine-penny piece			"	0	1	0
Twenty British Coppers			"	0	1	0

And all the highest and lowest denominations of the said Gold and Silver Coins, to pass current likewise in their due proportions. And it is hereby further ordained and declared, that from and after the first day of January, One Thousand

Seven Hundred and Sixty-five, the above species of Coins, or any of them, according to the above rates, shall be deemed a legal tender in payment of all debts and contracts, that have, or shall be made within this Province, where there is no special agreement to the contrary, drawn up in writing or before sufficient witnesses; and that in all agreements, prior to, or since the Conquest of this Province, which have been made in Livres, according to the method of computation heretofore in use, the Livre shall be estimated equal to One Shilling of the Currency hereby established, the Dollar to be equal to Six Livres, or Six Shillings, and in the same proportion for every Coin herein specified.

And whereas practice has been introduced of cutting Dollars, and of passing the fragments as small change at an arbitrary value, and the same being liable to great fraud and abuse. It is hereby further ordained and declared, that from the date of the publication hereof no parts of Dollars, or any other Coin, so cut, or otherwise clipped shall be admitted to pass current by way of change in any part of this Province, and that all persons, uttering or passing any such, upon conviction thereof by the oath of one credible witness, before one or more Justices of the Peace, shall for the first offence forfeit the sum of Ten Shillings, current money of the Province, and twenty for the second, besides one month's imprisonment; the said fines so levied, to be applied to His Majesty's use.

And, in order to prevent the importation of Copper in such abundance as to drain the Country of its Gold and Silver. It is hereby further ordained and declared, by the authority aforesaid, that from the date of the publication hereof, all Sols Marqués whether old or new, shall pass only as farthings, that is to say, from the date of the publication hereof, until the first day of January next, Forty-eight Sols Marqués shall be deemed equal to one Shilling Halifax, and Thirty of Sols Marqués equal to one Shilling York

Currency, but that from and after the said first day of January, next ensuing, Forty-eight of the said Sols Marqués shall be equal to one Shilling of the Currency of this Province, provided nevertheless, that no person shall be obliged to receive of said Sols Marqués, or other Copper at any one payment, for above the value of one Shilling of the Currency hereby established.

Given by His Excellency James Murray, Esq., Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of the Province of Quebec, and Territories thereon depending in America, Vice-Admiral of the same, Governor of the Town of Quebec, Colonel-Commandant of the Second Battalion of the Royal American Regiment, &c., &c., &c.

In Council at Quebec, the 14th of September, Anno Domini, 1764, and in the fourth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord, King George the III., by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c., &c., &c.

(Signed) J. A. MURRAY.

By order of His Excellency in Council.

(Signed) J. GRAY, D. Sec.

It was held, and rightly, that in a British Colony the French monetary no-menclature should be changed, and replaced by one more familiar to British ears, without causing any serious difficulty, disturbance of accounts, or change in the commitments of merchants.

These were the objects aimed at, in framing the foregoing statute or ordinance, and which were attained by assimilating the French Livre to the Shilling Currency of Canada, constituting the latter, like the Livre, an integer for money of accounts merely—but with a special basis; for the French Crown weighing 19 dwt. 4 grs. being $\frac{6}{8}$ Canada Currency, and legal tender at that, the Shilling or Livre, now convertible terms, represented 2 dwt. 21 grs. Silver of same fine-

ness, or 4 dwt. 47 grs. standard Gold. This was a vast improvement on the card Currency which had been so long a worry to the poor "habitants," who were forced under the old Regime, not only to take card money in settlement of debts, but to dispose of their produce at prices which were fixed by the intendant.

Under British rule all this was changed, and the townspeople considered it a great grievance when the "habitants," or country people, were allowed to sell the produce of their farms at the highest price they could obtain for it in the market place. Impartial Justice in the administration of General Murray, and of General Guy Carleton, who followed the policy of his predecessor, had much to do with the reigning calm which prevailed in Canada during that period of our History. In the Poets corner of old Gazette we frequently find such lines as the following :

" Au General Carleton

En toi, nous admirons la vertu, la Sagesse,
La sévère équité, la douceur, la noblesse
Pour tout dire en un mot, nous admirons en toi
Et le bonheur du peuple, et le bon choix du Roi."

Similar kindly feelings were manifested towards our French fellow subjects in an address of the Protestant Clergy of Quebec, dated 17th March, 1768.

"The mild administration and equal tenor of your Excellency's administration, whilst Lieutenant Governor, so consonant to that liberal spirit and those principles of moderation which ever distinguish the Briton, gives us the strongest reason to flatter ourselves that the harmony which has hitherto existed between His Majesty's old and new subjects in this Province, notwithstanding the difference of their religious opinions, will not only continue without interruption, but even be improved into a cordial and lasting affection towards each other, to the advancement of true

religion, establishment of the civil happiness of the subjects of this Province, and uniting all in the same sentiment of loyalty to His Majesty and attachment to his worthy representative."

It is pleasant to find the best feelings of human nature prevailing over national prejudice and dogmatic teaching.

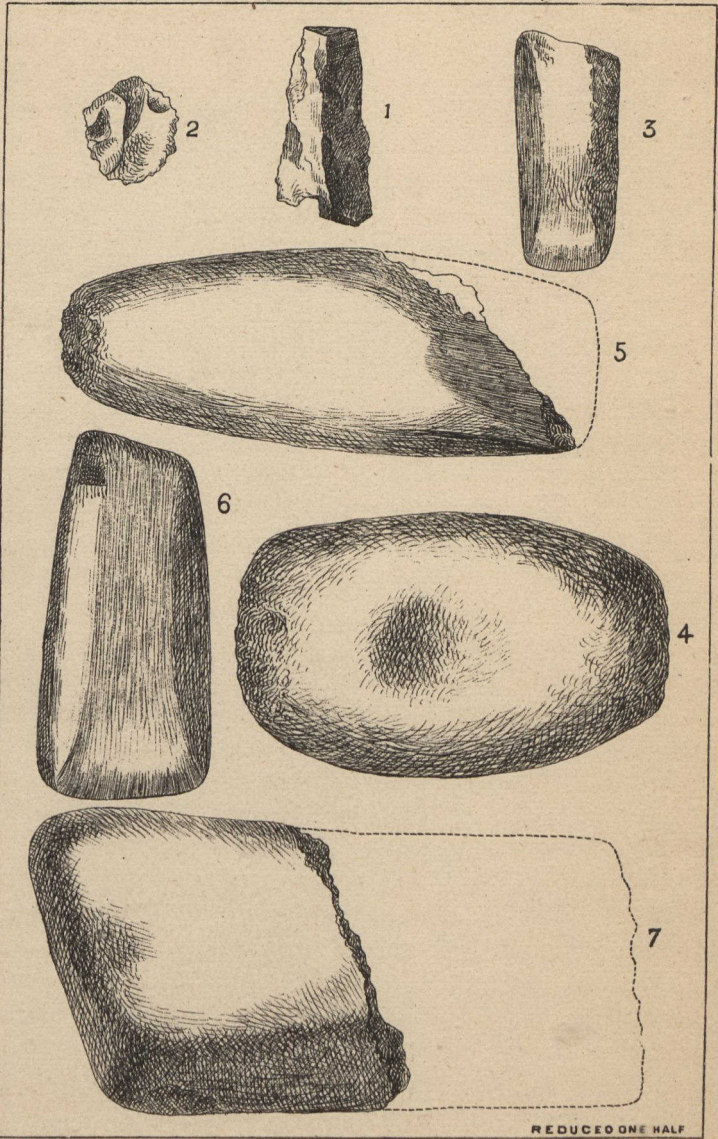
QUEBEC, 14th March, 1876.

FRAGMENTS FROM THE STONE AGE OF MONTREAL.

BY R. W. MCLACHLAN.

WE speak of the Eastern Continent as the Old World, calling the land of our Fathers the Old Country, yet this Western Continent is the older, and we may claim our own Dominion as the oldest land. Slowly, yet surely, like a giant oak has been its growth. These Laurentide mountains of ours, truly "everlasting hills," have outlived the many changes in the ever changing *dry land*. Grand mountain ranges, vastly their superior in height, have risen and disappeared, and risen again. Our fauna and flora belong chiefly to that of an earlier period. Aye! and man, even man here, is, or rather was up to recent times, old fashioned. His manners and customs were those of the race when it was young. Three centuries ago the stone age reigned here in all its primitive simplicity.

Curious this stone age—belonging to the beginnings of history in every clime. Shrouded in mystery we call it prehistoric. Yes, and around this mystery we are pleased, and even love to linger. The long hidden past and the unknown future, great impenetrable mist mountains, loom up behind us and before us: unknowable, unmeasurable, we can only gaze on their mysterious grandeur with awe; while to



A.H. Ford, del.

STONE IMPLEMENTS FROM MONTREAL.

us the present alone is the really small and insignificant. Giants there were in those days, Heroes too, and true inventors.

Strange too, how little we know of this stone age. How quickly has it melted, yea even vanished before the more potent reign of Iron and its conquering legions. Yes! we might safely say, that of it, while on this Continent it has come down to our own times, we know as little, as of the age in countries where it belongs to the far distant past.

Without the knowledge of the properties of Iron or how to work it, and its applicability to their many wants, the ancients used stone. Or it were better, perhaps, to say that their clumsy stone implements have been superceeded by those of Iron. Hence the terms *Iron* and *Stone* ages.

It is in examining what little there remains to us of this stone age, that we may learn something of the earliest inhabitants of this metropolitan City of Canada. And really, save a cursory sketch by Jacques Cartier, it is all that we may know of them. It has been written of people, "by their works shall ye know them," nothing extensive or grand have they left. Yet groping in the mist we may stumble on a few facts in their history; and, with no other point from which to view, let us look at them through their works, few and insignificant though they be.

Truly rude, more the exercise of instinct than reason, this first use of stone. Primitive man, pressed by hunger, with the most convenient stone, slew and eat. It is related of the early Caledonians: that each carried a ball of flint; and, that it might not be lost, had it attached to a long thong. Hurling this with unerring aim he brought down his necessary prey. Thus, have we explained to us, the first use of stone. Cartier tells us, in the account of his visit to Ancient Hochelaga, that the villagers had heaps of stones piled up within their walls, for defence in case of attack.

The cultivation and use of cereals as food, early necessi-

tated the employment of other instruments ; a large flat stone, probably a granite boulder of which there were many lying conveniently near, was therefore chosen. On this the squaws, with a smaller stone, pounded their parched corn, *Sagamatie*, into meal. And, notwithstanding the many improvements of this Iron age, our cereals are still after the primitive manner, reduced to meal by two stones, made to work the one upon the other. This meal, kneaded, required baking and heated flat stones were the only ovens and cooking utensils. Water also was made to boil by dropping similar heated stones into the wooden vessels in which it was contained. Many evidences there are on old camping grounds of stones devoted to this purpose. Fire places also were built up Cyclopiian fashion of stones of all shapes and sizes.

So much for the use of stone unhewn ; but as man rose in civilization, such unimproved natural implements and tools were early deemed insufficient. He soon began to use what are called flakes, that is angular fragments broken from hard flinty rocks. These served for cutting purposes or as scrapers, *Fig. 1*, being evidently an instrument of this class. It was turned up on the site of Hochelaga along with great quantities of broken pottery. In shape it is an irregular triangle tapering towards the point, which has been broken. The material is Trenton limestone from the base of the mountain. Although softer than other as accessible rock, its angular fracture rendered it more serviceable for cutting purposes.

Such fragments were at an early period improved by chipping ; being thus fashioned into spear, and arrow-heads, knives, and other cutting instruments : *Fig. 2* is what is called a chip broken off in this process. It is from the same spot as the flake, and is the only indication we have of this manufacture having been carried on by the Hochelagians. Brought thither, no doubt, by some dusky youth in play from the *stone* factory, its evidence is sufficient. From time to time

arrow-heads have been found at Longueuil, one of which is in the Museum of the Geological survey, such, with good reason, may be classed as belonging to Montreal.

The manufacture of these arrow-heads became one of the most flourishing industries, so to speak, in all uncivilized nations. Having selected a number of stones, such as gave an angular fracture he preferred, the primitive workman, with a suitable pebble, broke from them elongated fragments or flakes, as near the intended shape as possible. These flakes were then fashioned by a dexterous hand into the desired arrow-heads. This process is graphically described as follows :—"The Indian seated himself upon the floor, and, laying the stone anvil upon his knee, with one blow of his agate chisel he separated the obsidian pebble into two parts ; then giving a blow to the fractured side, he split off a slab a quarter of an inch in thickness. Holding the piece against his anvil with the thumb and finger of his left hand, he commenced a series of continuous blows, every one of which chipped off fragments of the brittle substance. It gradually seemed to acquire shape. After finishing the base of the arrow-head (the whole being little over an inch in length), he began striking gentle blows, every one of which I expected would break it in pieces. Yet such was his adroit application, his skill, and dexterity, that in little over an hour he produced a perfect obsidian arrow-head." This, a slow and tedious process, required great care and patience ; for often with almost the last stroke was a larger piece than was intended knocked off, and the work rendered useless. Dropping the spoiled arrow-head among the heap of chips, the patient Indian, without a murmur, went to work on the next flake. Wonderful how perfectly symmetrical in finish many of these arrows are. Some were completed by pressure instead of blows ; an instrument for that purpose being made from deer's horn. Some such instruments have been found in use among the Esquimaux. This mode of manufacture

is thus described by Gastaldi :—" When the Indians wish to make an arrow or other instruments of a splinter of obsidian, they take the piece in the left hand, and hold grasped in the other a small goat's horn ; they set the piece of stone upon the horn, and dexterously pressing it against the point of it, while they give the horn a gentle movement from right to left, and up and down, they disengage from it frequent chips, and in this way obtain the desired form."

Improvement, and a desire for greater comfort, brought new demands that could not be supplied save by a new departure in manufactures. Other tools, not easily completed by chipping, had to be made. Such, after they had been chipped to the proper size, were shaped by rubbing or grinding. A more tedious process than that previously described, still not attended with the same danger of having an almost completed job ruined. Large fixed grindstones, likely of sandstone from the Potsdam formation, were the instruments on which these polished tools were fashioned. For the finer work, such as gouges and axes, where the larger stone could not be used to advantage, a smaller whetstone was employed. *Fig. 3*, turned up in an excavation for the foundation of a house, near the site of the other finds, seems to have been used for this purpose. It is of a kind of mica-schist ; resembling both in shape and material whetstones in use at the present day.

The first object of this class, here presented in *Fig. 4*, seemingly a stone hammer, was picked up on the surface of a vacant lot near Metcalf Street. Made from a granite pebble, it required little if any labor to bring it to the proper shape. With a bandage of thongs it was bound to a handle ; a slight depression on the front, serving for a socket. The depression bears the appearance of having been made by picking, a pointed stone being the pick. At the butt it is about two inches thick, tapering slightly towards the point. It evidently has seen some service, as both ends are consider-

ably battered ; while a small piece has been broken from the point. Wielded by the strong arm of a stalwart Indian, many a well aimed blow has been dealt with it in driving home the wedge or post.

We have next, from the same place *Fig. 5*, what may be called an axe, which also bears unmistakable evidence of use. The material is a kind of hornblendic diorite from the mountain. In shape it is symmetrical, but unfortunately has been broken ; no pains seems to have been spared in its completion. It was ground first on a rough stone, as striae of this rough grinding process have been left on one face ; while in some spots where the chipping has left depressions the rough surface remains. The total length, when perfect, must have been about seven inches ; and the width in the broadest part about two. Tapering off to about half the width, at the butt, where it is almost round : it is flattened towards the point. Unlike axes in use at the present day, it was held in the hand, while force was applied by blows struck on the head with a hammer or mallet. Trees were cut down and wood split in this way. The point, no doubt, was broken in the attempt to extricate the axe from some tough old log into which it had got fastened.

Fig. 6, is a representation of a stone celt from the collection of Mr. E. Murphy, by whom it was found on the side of an excavation on Mansfield Street. It is of mica-schist, and is highly finished, save at the butt, which is left as it was first broken from the rock. Many, if not most of the celts found in this vicinity, are thus seemingly unfinished. They were probably used as skinning instruments, in fact, they are so designated in most descriptions, while it seems hardly possible that they could have been used for any other purpose, as many of them are made from such soft materials, that they could be of no use in cutting wood. A number of specimens from Hopkin's Island, exceedingly rude in finish, are of the softest of limestone.

Another specimen, *Fig. 7*, also broken, is fashioned from a piece of trap from one of the veins or dikes issuing from the base of the mountain. Found while excavating for pottery, it was rejected as of no Antiquarian interest; and it was not until some time afterwards, when making further excavations, that it was considered worthy of a place among the remains of old Hochelaga. In the mean time, it had been broken in halves, one of which was lost. For what purpose it was manufactured we have not been able to ascertain. Of a triangular, elongated, wedge shape, it may have served much the same purpose as our chopping knife. The Indians had strange mixtures: and the flesh of the deer may have been reduced to a "hash" by this instrument. From its shape, we might also take it to be the upper of a run of stones, from one of those primitive grist mills.

Various other kinds of such implements have been found in the vicinity of Montreal; the gouges from the Ottawa district being especially fine. We would therefore infer, although these are wanting in our collections from the site of Hochelaga, that its (for America) semi-civilized people were well acquainted with their use.

We have also those things manufactured by carving; and fortunately we have one beautiful specimen, of this style of workmanship, from our find. But as this object and its manufacture has been described in a previous paper we would refer our reader to Page 15 of this Volume for a further and more extended account.

We may hence gather, from these fragmentary objects, that the citizens of old Hochelaga were men of like passions with ourselves: that our thoughts were their thoughts. That great tidal wave of thought, swelling, in its course from the beginning through the ages, influencing all in its sweep, has flowed through them to us. We are now, in our own way, thinking out the great problem of life and happiness as did the minds of the past, and as will those that are to come.

Not that we are mere copyists. All are original. Yet thinking out for ourselves, the problem of our existence, through the same well worn channels, we arrive at the same great truths.

Although we boast of the surpassing grandeur of our present age; laughing at the vague rumors of the giants of early times; those were indeed giant men. With no inheritance, making the best of their great unmoulded untutored mind, they prevailed against vast odds. Heroes too, men who struggling for very existence, rose in civilization; aye, and in this struggle upwards bore us, rather all their posterity, a step nearer the coveted summit of perfect civilization. Why! all our great strides towards this summit are simply improvements on their grand fundamental inventions.

Then, giving these fathers in invention, all that is asked for them in the legends of Heroes and Giants, knowing that our possession is our inheritance, rather than our works, let us bequeathe to our posterity this rich legacy with, if possible, a tithe of usuary.

MAKING GREENBACKS.

THE general public, says the *Philadelphia Times*, while capable of recognizing any flaws in the impress of bank notes or fractional currency, know very little of the care exercised by the government in protecting itself against their fraudulent issue, or of the many safeguards thrown around the various stages which greenbacks undergo before they are placed in circulation. Every possible contingency is so surrounded with strict enactments, and so much red tape is necessary that the expense of printing Treasury notes is enormous. In the first place the manufacture of the peculiar paper used

is supervised by government inspectors, against whose integrity numberless checks and counterchecks have been devised and are strictly enforced. In the next stage, printing the backs of notes, the closest supervision is exercised, and the strictest account required. For instance, in printing the backs of fifty cent notes, which work is done by the Philadelphia Bank Note Company, in the United States Appraisers' building, Second Street, above Walnut, the sheets are counted at least eight times, and a register is kept of each count. In this establishment over forty presses are continually employed in printing the backs of notes required to replace a worn out currency. The paper is received in sheets of sufficient size to take an impression from plates on which sixteen engravings of the note have been made. The number sent in the package from the paper factory is not stated, as the box is sealed with the government stamp. A return is made by the party furnishing and the party receiving the paper, of the exact amount, without the knowledge of each other's count, so that the possibility of any fraud upon the Treasury is prevented. As soon as each sheet is accounted for, the paper is sent into the wetting room. The chief of that department, before he acknowledges the receipt of any package, requires that the number of sheets be ascertained by one of his assistants. After the paper has undergone the soaking process, it is again inspected, and an account is opened with each printer, who, in turn, must furnish a receipt for every sheet thus given him. Then on a hand press, with a girl adjusting the sheet to the plate and to the press, the printer strikes off the impressions one by one until one hundred have been printed. The sheets are then transferred to the drying department and again counted. Racks are arranged in a warm room so as to expedite this work, and in a few hours the sheets are taken to the counting room, being twice counted, in the change. Then they are returned to the superintendent of the print-

ing department, Mr. John McGur, under whose management all these intricate details have been followed out and the notes packed up for shipment to Washington, where the face is printed, and the seal of the United States Treasurer affixed. It is therefore, safe to calculate, that before a fifty cent note reaches the public, it will have been counted at least twenty-two times. So it is with all the currency afloat. The appliances for carrying on this work must be complete, and nothing but the best workmanship is allowed by the government in printing the circulating medium. The designing and engraving rooms, with their delicate machinery and skilled labor, are marvels, and the system of checks employed throughout the various branches is such as to render the consummation of any fraud upon the company or the government utterly impossible.

CLAIMS TO THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA.

PROBABLY no archæological mystery is enshrouded with more interest and a greater charm, than the discovery of the Western continent. This fact is attested by the devotion and zeal of a galaxy of men of genius, such as Humboldt, Kingstorough, Stephens, Rafn, and well nigh a score of others. The various theories for the solution of this perplexing problem, many of them ingeniously spun, are too numerous for mention here. Only the principal claims to discovery and colonization can receive attention. Ancient America, with its noble monuments of a once grand civilization, is to us a land of darkness, and its history one of uncertainty. In our inquiries, fact must, in a measure, be exchanged for conjecture. Very scanty are the records that come down to us from the ancients concerning their knowledge of the Atlantic, and the islands hidden in its bosom, though those indomitable sailors, the Phœnicians, had passed the pillars of Hercules and

established colonies on the western coast of Africa, in the ninth century before Christ. Three hundred years later (B. C. 570), according to Herodotus, Pharaoh Necho fitted out an expedition, manned by Phœnician sailors, and sent it around the entire coast of Africa. That the Canary Islands were discovered and colonized by the Phœnicians, there is no doubt. Strabo, speaking of the islands of the Blessed, or Fortunate Isles, as they were afterward called, adds, "That those who pointed out those things were the Phœnicians, who before the time of Homer had possession of the best part of Africa and Spain." It is a well-known fact, that these hardy adventurers of the seas were in the habit of preserving with the strictest secrecy the names and location of the distant lands with which they engaged in commerce. Where they sailed and traded, other than in the ports of the Indies and of the British Isles, must remain unknown. Whether furnished by this nation of sailors or not, the ancients seemed to have had some remarkable information concerning an island or continent hidden in the Sea of Darkness, as the Atlantic was called. The first mention of this is made by Theopompous, a celebrated Greek orator and historian, who flourished in the time of Alexander the Great. His description of this distant island, of great dimensions, and inhabited by a strange people, is preserved in Ælian's "Variæ Historiæ," written during the reign of Alexander Severus.—*The Galaxy*.

— The first newspaper, says the *Figaro*, which appeared in England, was published at the time of the threatened Spanish invasion in 1588. It was issued by the Government for the reason, as stated, "that this publication is the surest means of making the truth known to the people, and of contending against the sin of lying and exaggerations of calumny." The oldest number of this journal extant is No. 50, of July 26, 1588, now in the British Museum."

OBITUARY.



It is with regret that we chronicle the death of Sir Duncan Gibb, Bart., M.D., LL.D., F.G.S., &c. Born in Montreal, December 25, 1821; he died at the early age of 55, on the 16th February last-

Being of a studious turn of mind, he prepared for the University at Dr. Black's school, and graduating as M.D. from McGill, in 1846; he, in the following year, started on a visit to Europe. Returning in 1849, he at once commenced the practice of medicine in Montreal, where his indomitable energy soon led him to take a prominent part in the advancement of science and learning. Four years afterwards, (1853), he bade adieu to Canada, and took his residence in London, England, where he gained high honors in his profession, and among Scientific men.

During the four years of his professional career in this city, he was Curator and Librarian of the Natural History Society, and it was through his liberality and devotion that the Museum was brought to anything like its present condition; for, while devoting much of his valuable time to its arrangement, from his own collection it was enriched to the extent of over 1500 specimens. On his departure, a resolution was passed, thanking him for his "numerous and valuable contributions to the Museum," and expressing the Society's "best wishes for his future success and welfare."

Notwithstanding the pressing duties of his profession, and his many works published in connection therewith, he was a devout student of Natural History and Archæology, especially of his native country; having contributed a number of papers on these subjects to journals both in Great Britain and Canada. He also took a lively interest in the *Antiquarian* from its commencement, having favored it with several interesting papers relating to our archæological his-

tory. His last communication was a promise of a still more interesting article.

He was a keen observer, taking down in minute detail, notes, as he informs us, of everything he saw worthy of remembrance in his rambles. Having in his youth, paid considerable attention to Canadian Numismatics, these notes will, no doubt, contain many facts relative to that subject. It is to be hoped, then, that they will be published at an early date, ere they become lost to posterity.

COIN SALES.



THE Wingate Collection.—Mr. Wingate's famous cabinet of ancient Scotch coins has recently been sold in London, together with specimens from several other similar collections, the whole bringing a little less than \$20,000 in round numbers. A farthing of Robert Bruce brought \$200; a half St. Andrew of Robert III. (very rare), \$240. A half-tester in gold of Queen Mary brought \$75; a unique lion of Queen Mary, struck in 1553, with the crown and arms of Scotland between two cinque-foils, brought \$525; a thistle-dollar of the same Queen, of 1578, \$105. A "union," struck after the accession of King James VI. to the English crown, brought \$75.

Fewett Collection.—This sale, which we noticed in our last number, took place in New York on January 24th-28th. Considering the dullness of the times, the prices obtained for the rare and fine pieces may be regarded as satisfactory. The total amount of the sale was \$4950. The rare Indian medal, No. 1141, was bought by Mr. Netson of Cold Springs, N.Y., for \$24. The Leslie two-pence, went to Germany, fetching \$7. We give the prices for a few of the most interesting pieces:—144, Gold Salute of Henry V., \$10.50; 472, Double Thaler, \$6.50; 564, 1804 Half-Dollar, \$24; 843, Bliss Medal (for service in Mexico), \$13; 844, Nathan-

iel Green, for Eutaw, \$33; 845, Duncan Medal, \$13.50; 885, Gouverneur Kemble Medal, \$47; 886, Reuben Fenton Medal, \$9.50; 1017, Charles I., Pound-piece, \$32; 1185, Five Russian pieces, (remarkably fine), \$2.37 each; 2389, Washington Half-Dollar, \$50; 2403, Gold (Washington), "He is in glory," \$31; 2476, Washington Bronze Medal, \$48. This collection was catalogued by Mr. Edward Cogan, and we may add, that the description of the rare lines fully sustained his reputation for truthfulness and accuracy. We might say of this veteran, in the words of Shakespeare:—

He "nothing extenuates,
Nor aught sets down in malice."

— Catalogues of sales, to be held—one in New York on the 17th, and the other in Philadelphia on the 24th of April, —have been received, but neither of them contain anything of interest to Canadians.

EDITORIAL.

WITH the present number is our fourth volume completed; which, while we have to confess, that it was with strong misgivings, at its commencement, we undertook the task for another year, has proved much better than we had anticipated. Yet we have fallen far short of a possible perfection. Asking, then, a kind indulgence for our short comings, and promising better things for the future, we may state that we have presented the best that the time, which could be spared from our ordinary avocations, would allow. Thanking those who have contributed to our past success, we ask for a continuance of their favors. Since our commencement, we have lost many of those who have added much to the interest of our pages. It would seem necessary that others, of which there are many interested in the study, of the requisite ability, should step to the front to fill up our thinned ranks.

Then, with the help of abler pens than ours, may the *Antiquarian* become a monument in Canadian Archæological history. We have also to express our thanks to our brethren of the press for the many encouraging notices of our efforts in promoting the study of the old in Canada ; we will endeavor in time to be worthy of still more extended recognition. Especially encouraging are the following words which we quote from the *The Canadian Illustrated News* :—
“ In Montreal the absorption of commerce stands very much in the way of any devotion to the study of Canadian Antiquities, and hence the importance of encouraging the few who do persevere in the pursuit. Perhaps chief among these is the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal, which is quietly pressing its way into public recognition. The Society publishes a handsome and interesting quarterly entitled the *Canadian Antiquarian and Numismatic Journal*, which we are glad to see has already reached the third number of its fourth volume. The January number now lying before us is a very creditable pamphlet indeed, and if more prominently put before our citizens would, we are confident, meet with generous support. We would suggest to the Society that they should take immediate steps towards obtaining increased publicity, and we are sure, judging from ourselves, that their brethren of the press throughout all the Provinces would give them a helping hand.”

—During the past year an ingenious coiner, named Vautier, was tried at the Court of assizes of Ardennes (France) for having falsified and gilded one franc pieces so as to make them look like Napoleons. He confessed his guilt, and stated that he first filed down the francs to make them of the same diameter as Napoleons, that he next altered the inscription of the value on the reverse by soldering on flattened wire by means of a blow-pipe, and after completing the transformation with a graver, gilded the pieces by the galvanic process.

— The Jersey States have passed a bill for the withdrawal

of the present copper coinage (the penny pieces being now $1/13$ th of a shilling), and substituting a fresh issue based upon the English system, equally the twelfth and twenty-fourth parts of the shilling. It is intended to retain the existing style of coin, bearing the head of Her Majesty on the obverse, and on the reverse the arms of the States of Jersey.

— A medal, commemorative of the visit of the Czar of Russia to London, in May, 1874, has lately been completed by M. Wiener, the famous Belgian Medallist, who, in a competition invited by the Committee of Reception, was unanimously chosen to execute the work. On the obverse of the medal is a very faithful portrait of the Czar. The reverse presents an allegorical group, representing above, Peace with outspread wings; on one side a female figure, typical of the City of London, supported by two amorini, bearing sword and mace, emblems of civic power; and on the other the Emperor, in Imperial Robes. Around the face of the medal are the words: "Servorum emancipator liberae civitatis hospes." This medal, which is quite worthy of the artist, has lately carried off the first prize in a competition invited by the Belgian Academy of Art, for the best medal executed in recent years.

— Since the first of January, 1876, the German Empire has a uniform currency, and the medley of pistoles, ducats, guilders, kreutzers, groschen, and the hundred other coins that formerly were such a vexation to travellers have all disappeared from circulation.

— A handsome solid silver medal, of the National Rifle Association, has just arrived from England for our Montreal Rifle Club. It bears on one side the figure of an archer, with the old national weapon that made Robin Hood and his merry men so famous, and the date 1300—1500, "Sit Perpetuam," and in contrast an English Rifleman of 1860, with his Snider rifle.

— The Count de la Rochefoucauld, who has instituted excavations at Pompeii in a new direction, hitherto rather discouraged by the archæologists, has been amply rewarded recently. He has discovered two skeletons, one of a man and the other of a woman, both in a perfect state of preservation. At their sides were found a pair of gold earrings, a golden purse, and a piece of gold net work, and near by were some pastry moulds, four spoons, eight drinking cups, and four plates, all of silver.

— The excavations now being pursued in the Olympiad by German archæologists have already brought to light a fine statue of Victory, from the chisel of Praxiteles, in a perfect state of preservation.

— A most valuable MS. has been discovered in the Azores. It refers to the colonization, in the year 1500, of the northern part of America by emigrants from Oporto, Aveiro, and the island of Terceira. It was written by Francisco de Souza, in 1570. Barboza Machado states that it was lost during the great earthquake at Lisbon in 1755. This important document is about to be published by an erudite Azorian gentleman, and will throw much light on the disputed question of the early discovery of America.

— The recent excavations near the old Dipylon at Athens have brought to light the foundations of a house belonging to the time of Mithridates, in which were found fifty silver coins of the same age, some of which are of great value and unique in character. At Aquileia, interesting discoveries have also been rewarding the zeal of explorers; and, according to recent reports, the foundation walls of a circus of colossal dimensions have been traced.

— In 1844, the Duke of Devonshire sold his magnificent collection of coins and medals which cost him £50,000.

REVIEWS.



FROM Messrs. Edmondstone & Douglas, 88 Princes Street, Edinburgh, we have received the prospectus, with specimen plate, of a work entitled, "*The Records of the Coinage of Scotland.*" This quarto volume, edited by R. W. Cochran-Patrick, LL.B., will no doubt prove of service in the elucidation of the history of an important series of the British Coinage.

— "*Issues of the Mint of the United States, Chronologically arranged and described,*" by W. S. Appleton, is the title of a small pamphlet of twenty pages, which we have received from the author. It is a reprint from the *American Journal of Numismatics*, and in this form it will no doubt become an authority with the collectors of American coins.

— "*Numismatic Chronicle.*"—Part IV. of this journal is to hand. Its contents are a continuation of the supplement to "Madden's Jewish Coinage," and an exhaustive article on the Metrology of "the Ancient Electrum Coins struck between the Lelantian Wars and the Accession of Darius." It gives a full "account of the rise and extension of the early electrum and gold currencies of the Greeks, both on the Asiatic and European sides of Aegean." This field, highly interesting to all Numismatists as the birth-place of money and of art, is almost inexhaustible. Even in those early days, the issue of the many cities of Greece and her colonies, gave tokens of that highly artistic coinage, in which there is constantly something new to every Numismatic student. Altogether the article is well worthy of perusal, and reflects credit on the research of Mr. B. V. Head, who is now an acknowledged authority in Greek Numismatics. From the introduction we quote that:— "The discovery not long since of a small number of electrum coins on the coast of the mainland opposite the island of Samos, has lead me to examine more minutely than I

had hitherto done the series of electrum coins preserved in the British Museum; and as a renewed study of the coins has convinced me that we have still much to learn concerning these earliest examples of the art of coining, I have no hesitation in laying the results of my work before the Numismatic Society, in the hope that others also may turn their attention to this interesting series, and that thus we may obtain a clearer insight into the commercial relations of the various Greek cities, both on the Asiatic and European sides of the sea, in the two centuries preceding the subjugation of the former by the Persians."

— "*The American Journal of Numismatics*," contains, as usual, many items of interest to the American Numismatist. Among which, we may notice, an article on "Masonic Medals."

— The "*Coin Circular*," from Titusville, Pa., has also filed an appearance.

— Among the periodicals seeking favor with collectors, we have for the first time received a copy of "*The Coin Collector's Journal*," edited by Edward Froissard, Esq., and published by Messrs. J. W. Scott & Co., of 75 Nassau Street, New York. It will no doubt prove acceptable to many young collectors.

