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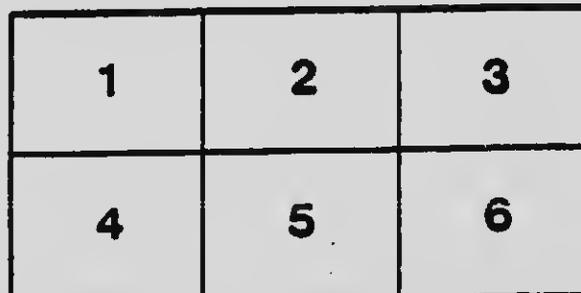
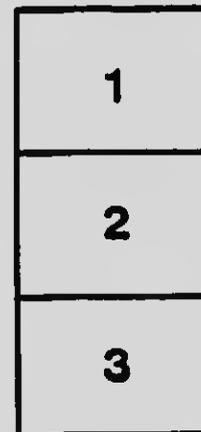
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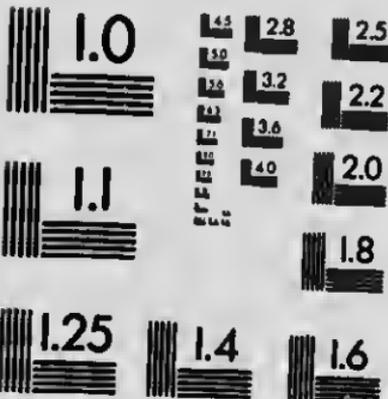
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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

A HISTORICAL SKETCH BY A. B. WARBURTON, B. A., D. C. L., K. C.

The noble Gulf of St. Lawrence bore an unwonted hurden on its fair bosom the afternoon of 30th June, A. D. 1534, the day when Prince Edward Island smiled her welcome to Jacques Cartier, first of white men to scan her shores. This was the great Breton's earliest voyage to the New World, and, until that summer afternoon, save the bark canoes of the Indians, his two small vessels, of some sixty tons each, were the first craft to plough the waters in the bight of Prince Edward Island.

Jacques Cartier was the earliest of the great French explorers of Canada, and the first European to ascend the St. Lawrence river, which he did on his second and third voyages, but with these expeditions this sketch has nothing to do. He was a man of courage and resource, as well as of great force of character, qualities essential to one of his adventurous calling. With these he combined the skill of an experienced sailor and a practical knowledge of navigation, not

surpassed by any of the seafaring men of his time.

In almost every walk of life, the closing years of the fifteenth century, and the whole of the sixteenth were rich in great and enterprising men. In the earlier part of this long period it may almost be said that, in no field of activity, were there to be found more far-seeing and adventurous men than were those great navigators and explorers, whose discoveries changed the known face of the globe and resulted in an absolute revolution in the conditions of the civilized world. And this extraordinary class was not confined to any one nationality. It almost seemed as if nature had bidden the different European peoples, regardless of racial differences, to bring forth men whom she could send forth to explore the unknown places of the earth, and make them known to civilized man. They hailed from no single country. Portugal, Spain, the Italian coast cities, France, England—all could boast of members of this

class whom they sent forth on their daring quest.

For several of these navigators, besides Jacques Cartier, the credit of discovering Prince Edward Island has been claimed, but such claims do not seem to rest on a substantial basis. The strongest of these has been on behalf of John Cabot, and in the older histories and by the earlier writers he is usually credited with the discovery. Dr. Stewart, in his article in the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, tells us that the claim was made on behalf of Sebastian Cabot. He evidently confounds the son with the father. There are no grounds on which any claim of the former can be based, beyond the fact that he probably accompanied his father on his first voyage. The supposed discovery was by the father, John Cabot, a greater man than the son. He sailed, on his first voyage, from Bristol, in May, 1497, on the "Matthew," a small, unarmed vessel, with a crew of only eighteen men. It was really a preliminary or preparatory expedition. The objective point was Cathay, or China, or the land of the Great Khan. The method of these old navigators, in making their voyages was, after leaving their home port, to sail northwardly until they reached a latitude judged sufficiently high for their purpose, and then to steer a course due west by the compass, and this is what Cabot did. He seems to have had very rough weather. He made land on the 24th of June, old style, which would be the first week in our July, so that his voyage must have occupied from six to eight weeks. There has been much

dispute as to what land this was which Cabot made. Sailing to the westward, it must have been the east coast of whatever land it was. It has been variously contended that it was the east coast of Newfoundland, the coast of Labrador, or the east coast of Cape Breton. But the report of the voyagers on their return to England was that the land was fertile, with a mild climate, as if silk might be grown there. In other words, it looked like a semi-tropical land. This description effectually disposes of Newfoundland and Labrador, as by no stretch of the imagination could it be made to apply to those storm-beaten and barren coasts. Now, in the beginning of July, part of the east coast of Cape Breton is a land very fair to the eye. At that season it might well impress one, who saw and heard of it for the first time, and whose wearied gaze had for weeks rested on nothing but a stormy waste of waters. Moreover, in A. D. 1500, La Cosa, a companion of Columbus, made a map of North America for the King of Spain, which is still extant. It was long lost, but was found in the middle of the last century. It is certainly based, so far as this part of Canada is concerned, upon information furnished by Cabot, or by some of his companions. It is the oldest map of North America, and on its face mentions the "Sea discovered by the English" and as John Cabot and his ship's company were the only Englishmen who had yet been there, this can only refer to his discoveries. On the English section, it refers to the Cape of Discovery, which coincides with Cape Breton, the eastern point of Cape Breton Island, which would thus seem to be established as the land made by John Cabot.

Further, Sebastian Cabot, in a map made by him in 1544, while giving no name to this cape, refers to it as the "first land seen". He must have had his information from his father, or he may have known it himself, as it is very likely that he was one of the "Matthews" company. On the same day an island was found close to this "first land seen," which was named St. John, because it was John the Baptist's day. Now, Cabot did not know of the Gut of Canada, which was not discovered until 1525, and he thought that Cape Breton was part of the mainland. Even had he known of this passage, by no possibility could he, in the slow-sailing craft of his day, which could only make four or five knots an hour, have got through and seen the coast of Prince Edward Island the same day. It would not be possible with our present-day craft. Not knowing of the Gut of Canso's existence, he could scarcely have reached this Island in a week.

But Cabot, on this first voyage, when he had found the land, had accomplished his mission. He had found land to the west, which he thought to be and reported to be

the land of the Great Khan, the land for which he was seeking. Then, skirting the coast of Newfoundland, he returned to Bristol, where he arrived in September, having been absent on this voyage about four months. It seems beyond doubt that Cabot never saw Prince Edward Island. The island named by him St. John, found the same day that he made the land, was almost certainly Skatari, off the Cape where he made his landfall. There is no other island off that coast that complies with Cabot's description. By no possibility could it have been Prince Edward Island.*

Verrazano, a Florentine navigator in the employ of Francis I of France, made a voyage in 1524, and it has been alleged that the credit of discovering this Island may belong to him, but that idea may be dismissed. He made the land to the south, near the Carolinas. He sailed along the coast of the present United States and the shores of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, and it was largely upon his discoveries that the French founded their claim to New France. He also coasted along Cape Breton, but there

*The late Archbishop O'Brien, in a very erudite paper on Cabot's Landfall and Chart, published in the Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada, for 1899, disputes the view adopted in the text, which is the one advanced by Doctor Dawson. Some of the crew, he argues, landed at Cape North, "on the very Cape," and then sailed four leagues west to St. Lawrence Bay, within the Gulf, where they again landed for water. Entertaining, as he does, a profound respect for the late distinguished prelate's erudition, the writer yet feels that his distinguished fellow Prince Edward Islander's patriotic love for the land of his birth, has misled him in this matter. The facts as mentioned in his article, would seem to be fatal to his contention. Cabot made his landfall about 5 a. m. True, this was on one of the longest days in the year. He had been storm-tossed for six to eight weeks, without seeing land. The crew, before landing "on the very Cape," had to make some preparations, getting boats ready, etc., and would spend some time going to and returning from the shore, and would also spend some time on the land, when they got there. Men, who had been so long at sea, in bad weather, would be apt to linger on shore. Then they returned on board, got the ship under weigh, and sailed four leagues to St. Lawrence Bay, where they again went on shore for water. The accounts are, that they saw no inhabitants, but that they saw traces of them, which they reported. This shows they took time to look around. It is almost safe to say that Cabot himself landed. Besides the time taken in getting their water, which they had to find, dip up and put into their casks, they remained on shore long enough to form an estimate of the quality of the soil, and of the products they deemed it

adapted for raising. They evidently looked about them, seemingly without hurrying. Now, if they made Cape North in the early morning, landed and spent any time there, then sailed four leagues, in a vessel whose rate of sailing would be little, if at all, over a league an hour, landed again, procured water for the ship, had a look at the land, returned with their casks to the ship, and got them on board again the same day, even though a long one, would have been pretty well spent. It seems to the writer quite impossible, that, in the slow-sailing Matthew, they could have reached Prince Edward Island the same day. Moreover, if he had made Prince Edward Island, he would not have known whether it was an island, or part of the mainland, as subsequent explorers believed. No doubt, His Grace was right in his description of the headland of Cape Breton as not agreeing with Cabot's description, but it was not necessary for the Navigator to step on shore at the Cape itself. There are landing places near the Cape. It seems possible that the Cape, made by Cabot, may have been one of the headlands, or points, in the same neighbourhood, but, even if that were the case, it would not destroy the force of Doctor Dawson's contention, which the writer has adopted in the text, and which seems to him to be conclusive. Another point which the Archbishop does not seem to have considered, but seems to the writer to be of weight against his contention, is the fact that, when Cabot, sailing to the West, made his landfall, he had accomplished the purpose of his expedition, and had no occasion to continue on his voyage. In fact, having, as he believed, attained his object, and being short of provisions, he did turn back.

is nooning to show that he went further than that, and, as already pointed out, the Gut of Canso, through which he might have sailed, was not yet known. As he sailed thence along the coast of Newfoundland, he could not have come within sight of Prince Edward Island.

Another noted explorer was the Portuguese, Stephen Gomez. Like so many of the sea-faring men of his country and day, he was a most skillful navigator. He had sailed with Magellan, when that great sailor discovered the strait which bears his name; but Gomez was of a jealous and treacherous nature, and, taking one of the ships, deserted his chief at the Strait and returned to Spain, in the service of which country the expedition to the south had been made.

Under the patronage and with the support of the emperor, Charles V., Gomez, in 1525, fitted out a ship and made an exploring voyage to North America. A methodical and skillful explorer, he minutely examined the coast from somewhere near Florida to Cape Breton and Newfoundland. He discovered the Gut of Canso, and that Cape Breton is an island. It had previously been thought to be part of the mainland. The name St. John had been given by John Cabot to the small island off the east coast of Cape Breton, discovered by him. Gomez gave it to Cape Breton itself, and the Gut was called the channel of St. John or St. Julian. But he did not go beyond that. He examined the coasts of Nova Scotia, and seems to have struck Halifax, as well as other harbours. The reports of his voyage, which are pretty full, give no hint of Prince Edward Island, or that he was ever in its immediate neighborhood. Had he seen an island the size of Prince Edward Island, there would surely

have been some mention of it. He was too painstaking and methodical an investigator to omit so important a discovery. In fact, his explorations from the Gut were in a direction away from this Island.

But, while it may now be safely asserted that none of these great explorers ever saw the "Garden of the Gulf", there can be no doubt that Jacques Cartier did make its shores. He has left a record of his voyage, which was long lost, but has been found, and of which more than one translation was known. Cartier was not only a great and skillful navigator; he was also a most observant man. The localities he touched can frequently be recognized from his descriptions.

Leaving his home port of St. Malo, in France, in the spring of 1534, he directed his course towards Newfoundland, even then becoming noted for her great fisheries, to which European vessels were resorting. He made a very good run, and towards the end of April reached the strait of Belle Isle, where he was detained some days by ice, then got through the strait, and explored the coast of Labrador and the shores of Newfoundland. Having navigated the waters of these coasts, he reached out into the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and discovered the Magdalen Islands, one of which he named Brion Island, after the Sieur de Brion, who had assisted in the expedition. After a few days at the Magdalens, during which he visited the Bird Rocks, which he describes, as well as all the other principal islands, he sailed on the 29th June, and the following day made the north shore of Prince Edward Island, at or near Cape Turner and Cape Tryon, in New London. He coasted westwardly, and landed in his boats at several places. He described the country as a beautiful one, and speaks of its woods, and says that there were no harbors,

but that there were sand-hills along the coast, and he saw natives in their boats at a river, which he named the "River of Boats," and is supposed to be the entrance to Richmond Bay. He saw more natives towards the North Cape, near which he also landed. He rounded the cape, where he noted the long and dangerous reef. The appearance of the whole country, with its fine woods he greatly admired. Sailing up the coast, after rounding the cape, he saw the land apparently closing in on both sides, but could see no harbor, and then turned back. He did not know it was an island, but supposed it to be part of the mainland. It was not known to be an island until long afterwards, when it was named the Island of St. John.*

St. John the Baptist seems to have been the cause of much of the confusion and doubt that exists, and has long existed regarding the early history of this Island. His was a favorite name with the old navigators, and we find it in many places, hence the confusion. There were Cabot's Island of St. John, off the east coast of Cape Breton; Gomez's Island of St. John, meaning Cape Breton itself; on Sebastian Cabot's map of

1544 the Magdalens are called St. John; then there were St. John's, Newfoundland, the river, St. John, and others. No wonder that, at a later date, Governor Patterson complained of mails going astray, and asked to have the name changed.

Nothing further is known of the Island for a century. Not even that greatest of French explorers, Champlain, seems to have set foot on her shores, although he was aware of her existence. Cartier's discovery would certainly have conferred upon France the first claim to the ownership of the Island, but it was long overlooked, or, probably, the French were too busily employed at home, where they had plenty of troubles to engage their attention, to give much thought to their North American possessions. The Bretons and Basques, as well as the Portuguese, English and other nationalities resorted more and more to the Newfoundland fisheries, which were carried on before Cartier's time, and undoubtedly they would not neglect the rich fisheries of Cape Breton. It is also most unlikely that these hardy fishermen did not seek their fairs round the Magdalens, and in the teeming waters off the shores of Prince Edward Island. But their business was catching and curing fish; reaping the harvest of the sea, and not settlement or exploration. It is even likely that they would land and erect their flakes and shelters on the coasts of these different lands, but there is nothing to tell us of what they saw or did, or how the Island fared, or how her swarthy inhabitants occupied themselves during the long years when, after Jacques Cartier's visit, she slumbered and slept in all the beauty of her forests and streams, her bright skies and splendid summer climate; or how the winter months of isolation sped away.

*In preparing this part of his paper, the writer has been much indebted to the excellent work of Dr. S. E. Dawson, and in reference to his great authority, has adopted, in the text, Capes Turner and Tryon as the parts of Prince Edward Island first seen by Cartier. He has also consulted Mr. Joseph Pope's "Jacques Cartier," in which the lands seen are placed farther west, and Kildare River is supposed to be the River of Boats. Cartier, approaching the Island, saw two high lands which looked like islands in the distance. There were formerly some very high sand hills, known as the Seven Sisters, to the eastward of Casco Bay or Holland Bay, off the shores of Township No. 11. These were swept away by storms some time in the middle of the last century. Till then they were most prominent objects, particularly when approached from the sea. These, the writer would suggest, were the two high islands seen by Cartier. If so, Kildare River would be the River of Boats, and the Cape of the same name was Cape Orleans. The Kildare seems to answer Cartier's description better than Richmond Bay. The writer, who spent his boyhood in that part of the Island, is personally inclined to agree with Mr. Pope. A very strong objection to this view is the distance (about forty leagues) which Cartier says he sailed to the westward after seeing the two supposed islands. From where the most eastern of the seven Sisters were to be seen to Kildare River would not be more than twenty leagues, even following the bends of the coast. Hence, Cartier's leagues do not apply to either. If the distance sailed is given with any degree of accuracy it would be more applicable to Cape Turner than to the Seven Sisters. Can it be that the distance of forty leagues sailed was an erroneous entry for a much shorter run?

THE FRENCH OCCUPATION.

In 1663, Captain Doublet, of the French navy, obtained a grant of the Island, together with the Magdalens, for the purpose of carrying on the fisheries in their waters. Associated with him were two companies of fishermen from the towns of Granville and St. Malo. They seem to have confined their operations to a few harbors, and not to have attempted any settlement, beyond such as was necessary for the carrying on of their industry. Mr. Stewart, in his "Account of Prince Edward Island," a valuable little work published in 1806, tells us that "From the best information, it does not appear that any settlements, with a view to cultivation, were made by the French on the Island, till after the Peace of Utrecht; and it is said their government never encouraged the settlement, and refused, after Sieur Doublet's patent was vacated, to give grants in perpetuity to the people who had settled in the Island, with a view to force the settlement of Cape Breton, and to draw as many people as they could round the different fortified posts they held on the continent."

In the early years of the eighteenth century, the Island seems to have been a place favored by the French inhabitants of Acadia, who resorted thither, but subsequently abandoned it. This is to be gathered from the correspondence of Lieutenant Governor Caulfield, of Nova Scotia, with the home government in London, to be found in Murdock's Archives. Writing from Annapolis Royal, on 16th May, 1716, to the Board of Trade and Plantations, he says that "The Island of St. John's, which the French of this colony seemed to like, in case they were obliged to quit us, is entirely abandoned by these inhabitants, who went there out of this government."

As there were no English here at that time, it is evident that, save for Indians, the Island was uninhabited. But this abandoned condition did not long continue. The French authorities at length recognized the Island's importance to them, and decided to settle it. No doubt they came to this decision because they saw what a convenient place the Island could be made, as a source of supplies for their forces in Cape Breton and elsewhere in its vicinity, and as commanding the trade of the neighboring territories. The English in Nova Scotia were equally alive to its importance. Paul Mascarene, in a description of Nova Scotia, transmitted in 1720 by Governor Phillips to the Lords of Trade, clearly points this out. He advocated the construction of a small fort on the neck of land between Bay Verte and the Bay of Fundy, and to show its necessity, says, "This is more so by reason that the French have sent four ships this summer, with two hundred families, with provisions, stores and materials for the erecting of a fort and making a settlement on the Island of St. John's, which lies in the Bay of Verte, part of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, part of which Island (which is near fifty leagues long) is but three or four leagues distant from the main, and six in all from Chignecto. When this settlement is made by the French, they will from thence command all the trade, and carry a greater sway over all the Bay of Fundy than the English, who are the undoubted owners, but have only the name of possession of it till such measures are taken as are hereby humbly proposed." He emphasizes his contention by adding, "For it is to be remembered that each of these places has a French popish missionary, who is the real chief commissioner of his flock, and takes his commands from his superiors in Cape Breton," a statement interesting in itself, because of the light

it throws upon the rancor and intolerance, which prevailed in religious matters a couple of centuries ago, when the feelings of suspicion, between people holding different religious beliefs, would almost seem to be stronger than the teachings of the religion they respectively professed; a feeling which, in this twentieth century, it is difficult to appreciate.

These two hundred families must have been settled there by Count St. Pierre, to whom, in 1719, the French King had granted the Island for the purpose of carrying on the fisheries. The Rev. John C. McMillan, in his recently published "Early History of the Catholic Church in Prince Edward Island," referring to this grant, says:

"With this concession to Count Saint Pierre, the History of St. John's Island properly begins. Heretofore almost entirely neglected, it now became the point towards which converged two streams of emigrants, the one from France, the other from Acadia or Nova Scotia."

The importance of the Island of St. John's, thenceforth, rapidly increased. Its owners, the French, at length recognized the great advantages its possession offered them, and, though late in doing so, now began to make the most of these advantages. The English in Nova Scotia were not slow to grasp the significance of this new departure on the part of their opponents. They saw the effect this settlement would have upon the trend of affairs and upon the business interests of the province of Nova Scotia. This is evidenced by an undated dispatch, of about this time, to Mr. Popple, secretary of the Board of Trade, in London, in which Governor Phillips, the writer, complains that "There is a continual intercourse and communication between Minas, Chignecto and

Isle St. John's; the traffic of those parts is wholly turned that way, the inhabitants go and come daily, and all this is not in my power to prevent, with the garrison at the distance of thirty leagues."

The aspect of affairs evidently grew rapidly more threatening, and the government of Nova Scotia became more anxious. On 27th September, 1720, the governor in council memorialized His Majesty, the King, urging the strengthening of Chignecto, because "it requires the more to have a considerable strength in regard that the trade is clandestinely carried to Cape Breton, by means of the Trajett (Portage?) from the Bay of Fundy into the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and that the French have sent this summer four ships, two of which, we hear, are actually arrived at Island St. John's, not above six leagues distance from Chignecto, where they intend to have a considerable fort and settlement, and by means of it will be able to command the trade, as well as the French inhabitants in these parts."

That the Island of St. John's was a cause of much anxiety to the government of the British province, and that it was looked upon by the French authorities in Cape Breton as of much importance, is shown by the despatches of Governor Armstrong, who, writing on 27th July, 1726, from Canso to the Secretary of State, says: "I understand that Governor St. Ovide (of Cape Breton or Louisburg), with some troops and his council, are gone to the Island of St. John's, in the Bay of Verte, in order to mark out the lands of that Island for such people and inhabitants as will quit this province and retire under the government of France; this has been managed under the missionary priests among the Indian and French inhabitants in the province." Again, writing on 9th

July, 1728, to the Duke of Newcastle, with regard to the refusal of the French on the mainland to take the oath of allegiance, he informs His Grace that, "they want neither invitations nor promises from the Islands of Cape Breton and St. John's for that purpose." The purpose was, to quit their plantations and improvements in Nova Scotia, and to make new settlements in the territories belonging to France.

Lying, as it did, so close to Chignecto and the English possessions on the mainland, it is not surprising that the authorities there should regard the Island of St. John's with suspicion and alarm. The Indian inhabitants are said to have been a war-like race, though, if we were to judge by their descendants, it would be difficult to imagine anything of the kind. The French inhabitants themselves were a hardy people, inured to privation, who had suffered much, both real and fancied wrong, and both were largely under the influence of unscrupulous leaders, of whom Le Loutre was perhaps the most notorious, as well as the most to be feared. For years this man kept the colonies, both French and English, in a ferment. Possessing great influence over the Indians and the French inhabitants, he was a veritable thorn in the side of the governor of Nova Scotia. The English authorities were kept in a continual state of alarm and unrest, and the Island of St. John's was a centre from which danger was always to be apprehended. Writing from Chebucto to the Duke of Bedford, on 11th September, 1749, Governor Cornwallis says: "I have intelligence from all parts of the province and from Cape Breton, that the Indians of Acadia and St. John's Island, headed by Loutre, design to molest us this winter. The French do everything in their power to excite them to it. The settlers

don't seem at all alarmed. All precautions that can be thought of are taken for their security."

Writing from Halifax to the Lords of Trade and Plantations, on the 17th October, of the same year, Cornwallis returns to the subject, as follows: "I acquainted you in my last, I was apprehensive that the Indians called Micmacks, in this Peninsula, encouraged and set on by the French, would give us trouble, as all my accounts from Cape Breton denoted it, and more, that they would attack the settlement—these Micmacks include the Cape Sable, St. John's Island, Cape Breton, and all inhabiting the peninsula. Le Loutre, a priest sent from France as a missionary to the Micmacks, is with them, as good-for-nothing a scoundrel as ever lived.

"The St. John's Indians I made peace with, and am glad to find by Your Lordship's letter of the 1st August, it is agreeable to your way of thinking, their making submission to the King, before I would treat with them. * * * I intend, if possible, to keep up a good correspondence with the St. John's Indians, a war-like people, though treaties with Indians are nothing—nothing but force will prevail."

Even as late as 1756, only two years before the fall of Louisburg and the British occupation of this Island, it was a subject of anxious thought, not only by the government of Nova Scotia, but also by the New England colonies, who recognized the importance to themselves of British rule being maintained in what are now the Maritime Provinces of Canada. Being much better informed as to existing conditions, they were much more alive to the danger than were the Lords of Trade in London. Writing to Governor Lawrence, on 13th March of that year, Shirley, the famous governor of Massachu-

setts, urges the fortifying of the neck of land between the Bay of Fundy and Bay Verte, to secure the province (of Nova Scotia) against sudden attacks of the French from Quebec, * * * "not to mention St. John's Island, which is so very near a neighbor to the peninsula, and from whence danger may arise to it when the Island shall be settled by the French."

"It would likewise prevent the French from making any considerable settlements upon St. John's Island, from whence further danger might arise, in time, to the peninsula, and from carrying on any fishing there."

Numbers of Acadians did leave Nova Scotia, and sought to make new homes in Cape Breton and the Island of St. John's. They suffered much hardship and privation in their new abode, and were even in want of food, with which those already settled there were little able to supply them. This can be gathered from a pregnant reference in a letter from M. Loutre, the missionary priest among the Nova Scotia French and the Indians, whose name so frequently appears in the Acadian records of this time. Writing on the 15th August, 1750, from Bay Verte to M. Bigot, commissary of New France, he says: "M. de Bonaventure is to write you by this opportunity, to ask you for provisions, not being able to get any from Louisburg, for the subsistence of the refugee families. If the four vessels that you promised had arrived, we would have sent some flour to Isle St. John; but for the present we can not do so." M. Loutre was a stormy petrel for the inhabitants of Nova Scotia, and much of the misery which fell to the lot of the French population was due to his machinations. He ever fomented strife and ill-will between the two nationalities in Nova Scotia. Wielding vast influence over the Indians,

he was able to cause much trouble, by inciting them against the English, and he kept his own compatriots, who looked to him for guidance, embroiled in the same way. From the records printed in Murdock's Archives, it seems clear that, in the course he adopted in this respect, he was acting directly contrary to the wishes of his ecclesiastical superiors, if not against their express instructions. Though a hollow peace had been patched up in Europe, war never really ceased out here. The French had erected two forts, one at Beausejour and a smaller one at Bay Verte. In 1755 these were captured by Colonel Monckton, after whom the town of Moncton is named, who attacked them with a force of regulars and colonials, principally the latter. A number of French Acadians were captured. Le Loutre was there, but, at the time of the surrender, he effected his escape. He sailed for France in 1756, but the ship on which he took passage was captured at sea, and he was made prisoner by the English, who sent him to the Island of Jersey, where he remained for some years until the Treaty of Paris, when he was released, and thenceforth does not appear in our history.

The Island of St. John's received a considerable accession of population in 1755-6, upon the capture of the French posts on the mainland. The inhabitants of this neighborhood retired to St. John's Island for safety, and as offering a basis for continuing the struggle. The French authorities in Cape Breton had now for a long time recognized the importance of their Island colony as a source of supplies for Louisburg and their forces in Cape Breton. The great fertility of the soil, and its adaptability for raising vegetables, cereals, cattle and other live stock would render the Island invaluable as a place

whence supplies of provisions could be procured. Mr. Stewart informs us that, at this period, the garrison of Louisburg drew a great part of its subsistence from St. John's Island. The French maintained an officer here, who was called the governor, and, in addition, they had two officials or commissaries on the Island, whose duty was to procure food for the forces in Cape Breton. These officials themselves fixed the prices which the people were obliged to accept, and we are told by the same excellent authority that they generally put the price of a fat ox at eight to ten dollars.

Upon the fall of Louisburg, in 1758, St. John's Island, the store-house of Cape Breton, became a part of the British empire, and General Amherst sent Lord Rollo with a detachment to take possession. His name is perpetuated in that of Rollo Bay, in King's county. Thenceforward the Island has remained subject to the crown of Great Britain.

There is a great difference in the estimates of the population of St. John's Island at the close of the French regime. Mr. Stewart tells us that there was said to be nearly ten thousand people on the Island in 1758, but that, from the appearance of the remains of their improvements, the greater part could have been but a few years settled. This would bear out the statement that there had been a considerable recent influx from the mainland. But, from the non-committal way in which Mr. Stewart writes, it may be assumed that he, though writing less than half a century after the event, was dubious as to the correctness of this estimate.

Mr. Bourinot, whose extensive researches and painstaking accuracy in investigation entitle whatever he says to the greatest weight, places the population at about four thousand

souls, engaged in fishing and farming, and composed principally of Acadians who had commenced to cross from Nova Scotia after the Treaty of Utrecht (A. D. 1713), who were able to supply Louisburg with provisions, as no agricultural operations of importance were carried on in Cape Breton. He also tells us that there were several prosperous settlements at Port la Joie (Charlottetown), St. Pierre, and on the bays of the low-lying coasts.

The French had no fortifications on the Island, though they had a few guns mounted at the mouth of Charlottetown harbor, at the North side of the Hillsborough river, opposite what is now McNally's Island, and at St. Peters. They had a fine settlement from the mouth of the harbor round to Point Prim, and St. Peters had long been settled, and there the fishing industry was carried on. In Prince county they had settlements along the Dunk river and on Lots 27 and 28. They had also a settlement on Lots 13 and 14, and round Richmond Bay. A considerable settlement flourished near Bedford bay, where the pursuit both of agriculture and the fisheries could be prosecuted. There was a small settlement between the Montague and Brudenell rivers, said to have been founded by the French government, but the splendid harbor of Georgetown seems not to have been touched. Their principal settlements were in the neighborhood of marsh lands, whence they could procure food for their cattle. They also possessed many boats and some small vessels, with which they engaged in fishing and in trade with Cape Breton and the mainland, and possibly, to some extent, in privateering.

The struggle between Great Britain and France for supremacy in North America continued fitfully for a few years longer, but,

with the fall of Louisburg, French power, in what are now the Maritime Provinces of Canada, was broken. The Island of St. John's, as already pointed out, was taken possession of on behalf of Great Britain by Lord Rollo in 1758. In 1763 the Treaty of Paris confirmed what her victory had given her, and, with the rest of France's possessions in North America, save some small islands and some fishing rights, the Island became, as she is today, part of the British empire. The long struggle for supremacy was at an end. A halo of romance invests the wondrous story of French performance in Canada. The record of her achievements in the field, on the flood, in the forest, the tale of her pioneers, the deeds of her soldiers, the wanderings of her *voyageurs*, the self-sacrifice and indomitable resolution of her explorers, of her priests and of her people, the whole legend of France's dominion in the New World, is one that has in it much of sadness, much of toil, much of heart-burning, much of sorrow; but a thousand times more has it that in which all these are lost. It has in it the memory of noble purposes, of high resolves, of great and gifted men, of mighty struggles, in a word, a story worthy of the great people whose sons are its theme, and whose Canadian sons were worthy of the wonderful mother country from whose loins they sprang.

We rejoice and are glad that we live under the folds of the three-cross flag. We must also feel a great and a generous pride in the men of French blood, who first made Canada, whose deeds and whose glories are now the common heritage of the two races, those ancient foes, who are today pressing forward as one, in the building up and consolidating of this North American Dominion, whose united efforts will result in a na-

tion as great as the world has seen. Yes, they are a common heritage, because they belong to our common Canada, our common country.

The lot of the settler on St. John's Island could not have been an easy one. Ever disturbed by war or the threatenings of war; called upon to supply the needs of the great Cape Breton fortress, and of his country's soldiers and sailors, and that almost within sight of his English foes, his must have been a trying life. Mr. Stewart says that some of their settlements were fine, but the refugees who sought a resting place there in the later years could have had little chance to found new homes. Le Loutre's desire to supply them with some flour, in itself shows what straits they were in. Mr. McMillan, in his work already referred to, tells us of their awful destitution, that some of them had not even sufficient clothing to work out in winter, or to cover their nakedness in public. The greater the number of refugees, the more appalling must their condition have become.

During, or more likely prior to, the actual settlement of the Island by the French, a destructive fire swept a large part of its surface, causing enormous damage. Before this calamity occurred, the Island must have been stocked with deer. Even to this day their antlers are sometimes found, proving their former existence here. In his childhood the writer has heard the old people tell that, in some great, by-gone fire, all the deer had been destroyed, and, although they did not know when it happened, the tradition could only have referred to this fire, during or before the early days of French settlement. Mr. Stewart refers to it briefly. It is likely that when it occurred fishermen were frequenting these shores, but if so, their settle-

ments must have been of a very temporary nature, and there is no record of them. Of the destruction of the deer and of the forests, there seems no room for doubt.

THE BRITISH OCCUPATION.

The troubles of the French settlers of the Island of St. John's culminated with its occupation by the British. Their compatriots had already been expelled from Nova Scotia, many of them having sought a refuge in the Island. Instructions were given to expel the settlers from St. John's Island, and great numbers were sent away. Some found their way to Quebec, where they were but coldly received, part were sent to the English colonies further south. Many more sought their motherland. Some of these never reached their haven, and to those who did, we are told by Mr. Stewart, France accorded a poor welcome, and blamed them much "for their obstinate hostility to the British government." A good many families, however, concealed themselves in the woods until the storm had passed, and thus avoided deportation, and were afterward allowed to remain. This was more particularly the case with those who were settled in or about Malpeque. Their remoteness from the central settlements stood them in good stead in this respect, as they were not in view of the authorities and thus were enabled to avoid the deporting force.

Their lot was indeed a hard one. Our sympathy must go forth for these poor, misguided people. At this time little is to be gained by discussing their expulsion. Such a measure would not be thought of in our day, but we can not judge the middle of the eighteenth century by twentieth century rules. That the authorities in Nova Scotia

had some reason for stern measures, is evident to an unprejudiced student of the period from the Treaty of Utrecht (1713), and who considers the circumstances and conditions of that time. That even these conditions justified the appalling treatment meted out to these unhappy people, will not be asserted. It is inconceivable that a more humane policy would not have accomplished the purpose desired, namely, to make them peaceable and loyal subjects of the British crown. The expulsion furnishes a very gloomy page in the history of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, a page over which it is not a pleasure to linger. That these people were unwise, goes without saying; that they were ignorant was inseparable from their then surroundings; they had doubtless their faults; their conduct towards their new rulers was not that of wise men, or men of the world. The penalty they paid infinitely outweighed their offence. And yet we wonder at the treatment they received when they went back to their own kin. The spirit, after all, which actuated the poor French settlers was the same spirit which, not so long afterwards, impelled a far more enlightened, educated and wealthy class of men to abandon their homes in New England, when the revolting colonies had achieved their independence, and seek homes in these more northern lands, where they could still be under their old flag. Love of the empire, in which he had been born and spent his life, was what sent the United Empire Loyalist, a wanderer, from his home. It was the same deep-rooted loyalty to his race and his King that influenced the poor settler in Nova Scotia and the Island of St. John's. The one left a country where he had long been a dweller, but which had become to him a foreign land, to seek a new home in old Canada, Nova Scotia, New

Brunswick or the Island of St. John's. He was honored, and rightly honored, for his noble resolve, and to this day to be the descendant of an United Empire Loyalist is in itself a claim to distinction. The other, poor and ignorant, driven from his home, went to his own, and his own received him not. To him no kindness was shown, no reverence or honor extended. Truly, his was a hard lot.

There is little more to be said of those who remained. From a memorandum, dated 22d March, 1764, relating to the number of French families then remaining in Nova Scotia, and who had agreed to take the oath of allegiance, we learn that "In addition to the above (i. e., the families in Nova Scotia) there are three hundred on the Island of St. John's, who have lately in a solemn manner, declared the same intention as those mentioned, to the officers there in command."

Colonel Haldimand, after whom Haldimand county in Ontario is named, wished to take them to his property there. On the 2d of December, 1765, Governor Wilmot writes from Halifax to Captain Williams, that "Col. Haldimand having applied to me for leave to take the Acadians on St. John's Island, to settle them on his land in the province of Canada, I very readily give my consent for so good a purpose, as under his care and inspection there's great reason to hope that they will soon be brought over to their duty and allegiance.

"Colonel Haldimand's undertaking being a public good, in order to enable him to succeed more effectually, it will be necessary that the people shall be at liberty to take with them a proportion of their cattle, and that they may build as many shallops as may be sufficient to carry them up the River St. Lawrence."

This design was not carried out, and thenceforth, the remaining French settlers were allowed to dwell in peace.

On the conclusion of peace, in 1763, the Island of St. John's was annexed to Nova Scotia, and continued to form a part of that province until 1769, when it was erected into a separate government.

ANNEXED TO NOVA SCOTIA.

In a sense, the fair appearance of the Island and the known fertility of its soil were not unmixed blessings. Scarce was the ink on the Treaty of Paris dry, when persons of influence in Great Britain, or who had claims, real or supposed, upon the government, began to petition for grants of the Island. Of these, the first and most Quixotic was that of John, Earl of Egmont, made in December, 1763, to His Majesty, the King, in which he modestly states that he "desires from His Majesty a grant of the whole Island of St. John's, estimated at two million acres, with all rights, royalties, privileges, franchises and appurtenances, with all civil and criminal jurisdiction." The jurisdiction was not to differ from the known rules of the common and statute law of England. Fifteen thousand two hundred acres of land were to be reserved for a capital town and for principal places of trade.

The Earl, whose name is preserved in Egmont Bay, was the first lord of the admiralty. He proposed to introduce the feudal system into the Island, where he was to be Lord Paramount. His memorial, which is of great length and detail, sets out the various tenures he proposed to establish, and the gradations in rank which were to be introduced. He summarized his proposition as follows:

SUMMARY OF LORD EGMONT'S PROPOSALS.

Tenure for the service—One Earl of the whole county; forty capital lords of forty hundreds; four hundred lords of manors; eight hundred freeholders; 800,000 acres.

Tenure for burgage, for the establishment of trade and commerce in the most proper parts of the Island—One county town, 15,200 acres; forty market towns, 20,000 acres; four hundred villages, 40,000 acres; 75,000 acres.

Tenure at large in common soccage—Left (at large) in common soccage, as a fund to enable the undertakers and for their encouragement to complete this plan, 1,124,800 acres; making a total of 2,000,000 acres.

On the 23d February, 1764, the Lords of Trade reported, recommending that Lord Egmont's prayer be not granted.

He sent in a second memorial, to which no official answer was made, and in February he sent in a third memorial, which is undated, but must have been immediately after the unfavorable report by the Lords of Trade on his first memorial. In this he asks, on behalf "of himself and his nine children, and of a great number of land and sea officers, whose names are inserted on the other side hereof, with many persons of distinction, officers of rank in the navy and army, and others * * * to undertake the complete settlement of the Island of St. John's, in the gulf of St. Lawrence, in the province of Nova Scotia * * * prays a grant in fee of the said Island, with its appurtenances, * * * the land of the said Island to be surveyed and divided by Your Majesty's surveyors, and to be parcelled out by him, the said Earl (for himself and his nine children), and the other intended adventurers, in such proportions and divisions, and upon such conditions, as have been already declared and

agreed * * * To be held of Your Majesty in free and common soccage, and as part of Your Majesty's province of Nova Scotia, on such terms of settlement and payment of quit rents, after ten years, to Your Majesty as Your Majesty shall think fair, provided the same be no more burthensome or take place sooner than as required by any grant already made in Your Majesty's province of Nova Scotia."

On 23d March, 1764, the Board of Trade report, pointing out objections to his Lordship's proposals, which were not approved, and were rejected by order in council on 9th May, 1764.

But the authorities in London, whether aroused by Egmont's persistent applications, or for some other reason, the writer has no means of knowing, now took the case of the Island into their serious consideration. On 13th March, 1764, the Lords of Trade recommended that the Island be forthwith surveyed, and divided into counties containing, so near as the natural and proper boundaries would permit, five hundred thousand acres each. The counties were to be laid off into parishes of about one hundred thousand acres each, and each parish was to be subdivided into townships of twenty thousand acres each. Care was to be taken that each county, parish and township should be laid out so as to partake, as much as possible, of the natural advantages of the country, especially those which arise from the sea coasts, and from the sides of the navigable rivers. In each county sufficient land for a town site was to be laid out, and in each parish a proper site for a church and a sufficient quantity of land for a glebe for a minister. It was recommended that, when the survey was made and returned to the governor of Nova Scotia, regular grants of such divisions and sub-divisions should be

made, under the seal of the province, to the Earl and his family and to each of the other memorialists, under the like regulations and conditions of cultivation and settlement, as are prescribed in His Majesty's instructions in respect of grants of land in other parts of said province. And it was also recommended that, with the exception of the Earl and his nine children, no one person should get more, under such grants, than twenty thousand acres.

They go on to say that the Island of St. John is particularly valuable for its soil as well as situation, and that they had the design to raise a higher revenue of quit rents from this Island than from other parts of Nova Scotia, and that certain merchants had agreed to accept grants at three shillings a hundred acres, being an addition of one shilling. They further state to His Majesty that they have been informed that there are cleared lands consisting of many thousand acres in the most fertile parts. They recommended that out of any grants there should be reserved all mines of gold, silver, copper, lead and coal, and a sufficient breadth on the sea-coast from high water mark for the accommodation of all His Majesty's subjects carrying on the fisheries, for which the coasts of the Island are so advantageously situated, together with proper accommodation for the fishing of sea-cows, which, they understand, abounded on some parts of the coast.

In the following May, Admiral Knowles and his associates memorialized His Majesty, praying that, inasmuch as Lord Egmont's proposal had not been approved, the whole Island of St. John should be granted, in lots of twenty thousand acres each, to them, and they would engage to complete the settlement of the Island within ten years.

Up to this time no plan of settlement had been adopted. But now, 1764, a general survey of British North America was ordered, and the northern part of it, which included Upper and lower Canada, the present maritime provinces, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, were allotted to Captain Holland, Surveyor General of Canada, who was ordered to commence with the survey of this Island, which he began the same summer and completed in 1766. The plan, already outlined, of granting the Island to persons applying, was then carried out, but owing to the number of such applicants, it was decided that the townships should be drawn in a lottery, which was done before the Board of Trade, in London, and in this way all the townships, except Nos. 40 and 50, were allotted to the different persons, and thus was foisted upon this Island that proprietary system which was the cause of continual turmoil and agitation until it was finally abolished in 1877.

A term of the grants was, that quit rents of six shillings per hundred acres should be paid on some townships, four shillings on others and two shillings on the remainder, payment on half to begin in five years from the date of the grant, and on the whole at the expiration of ten years. The proprietors were also to settle their townships within ten years, in the proportion of one person for every two hundred acres, and, if one-third were not so settled within four years, then the whole was to be forfeited to His Majesty. In 1767, a mandamus for each township or section of a township was issued to the grantee by whom it was drawn.

There were other conditions, but the two relating to quit rents and settlement were the most important, and were the ones which were the cause of trouble for the next cen-

tury. During this whole period the proprietary system or the land question, as it was long called, was the burning question in Prince Edward Island politics. It will be referred to again, when treating of the Island after it became separated from Nova Scotia.

In 1768 the proprietors petitioned the King to erect the Island into a separate government, and proposed to provide for the expenses of the establishment out of the quit rents, one-half of which they expressed themselves willing to pay from the 1st May, 1769, the other half to be deferred for twenty years.

The report of the Lords of Trade and Plantations, to His Majesty, which was approved by order in council at the Court of St. James, on 28th June, 1764, recommended the establishment of a government, to consist of "a governor and council, until such time as there could be a legislative assembly or house of representatives, and a supreme court exercising the authority of the courts of the King's bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer, in Westminster Hall." * * * For forming a government on so limited a plan, "the example of the several new colonies, lately established under similar acts, furnish every useful and necessary precedent." * * * "But, as the lords commissioners wish in the course of this business to adhere as closely as possible to the opinion, so justly adopted by this committee, that no new establishment of this nature ought to be undertaken, either at the expense of this kingdom, or by charges upon the peculiar revenues of the crown, so they can not close this report without suggesting that the governor of the Island, in their opinion (in which opinion the proprietors also concur), be fully instructed that as soon as an house of assembly should be formed, and the circumstances of the people will admit of it, he

shall make the strongest representations in Your Majesty's name, for the establishment of such a permanent revenue, by proper duties or taxes, as may amount to all the expenses of government, upon some certain estimates." * * * The committee recommended the King that the commissioners of the treasury and Lord Hillsborough, one of His Majesty's principal secretaries of state, receive His Majesty's pleasure for the appointment of the several officers proposed as necessary for the administration of government, so far as related to their respective departments; "and that the lords commissioners for trade and plantations should prepare draughts of a commission and instructions for such person as Your Majesty shall be pleased to appoint governor of the said Island, conformable to the plans before mentioned, and likewise consider of and prepare the form and device of a new seal for the said Island, and lay the same, together with the said draughts of a commission and instructions, before Your Majesty's Council."

His Majesty, in council, approved of the proposition and ordered that the same be carried out. The following estimates of the annual expense of the said establishment, and the amount of the fund for defraying the expenses thereof, were also approved.

ESTIMATE OF THE ANNUAL EXPENSE OF
THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT FOR
THE ISLAND OF ST. JOHN.

The Governor	£ 500.00
Chief Justice.....	200.00
Secretary and Registrar.....	150.00
Attorney General	100.00
Clerks of the Courts and Coroner.....	80.00
Provost Marshal.....	50.00
Minister of the Church of England.....	100.00
Agent and Receiver of Quit Rents.....	150.00
Contingent Expenses.....	140.00

£1470.00

Estimate of the amount of fund for defraying

the expenses of the intended establishment of the Island of St. John, according to the proposals of the Proprietors.

Twenty-six lots, at 6s. per hundred acres,
 a moiety of which is.....£780.00
 Twenty-nine lots at 4s. per hundred acres. 580.00
 Eleven lots at 2s. per hundred acres..... 110.00
 Rent of Town and Pasture Lots uncertain.

On 30th June, 1769, Lieutenant-Governor Franklin, of Nova Scotia, writing from Westminster to John Pownal, Esquire, encloses a return of the provisions and stores at Charlottetown, received from Mr. John Moreau, in whose charge they were, and also a description, signed by Mr. Moreau and Engineer Ness, of Tatamagouche, dated October, 1768, of two buildings at Charlottetown. As these are the earliest buildings at Charlottetown of which we have a description, the description may be of interest. They were, "A dwelling-house, fifty-six by twenty-six, one story, with a pitched roof shingled and clap-boarded, and filled in between with stone laid in rough mortar, two stacks of chimneys, with two ovens and six fire-places, two parlors, two kitchens and lodging rooms, a cellar, stoned, under one-half of the house.

"A house intended for a dwelling house, of the same dimensions, clapboarded and shingled, now used as a store, but partitions fixed up for the same number of rooms as the above house, a cellar, stoned, under the whole house and a stone pier at one end of it, for a foundation for a chimney. A wharf head next the shore of Hillsborough river, fifty feet wide, carried out thirty feet, solid with stones and timber. Several of the streets of Charlottetown entirely opened."

On the 7th July, Lord Hillsborough, having learned that Mr. Higgins was about to embark for the Island of St. John, informed him of the intention to erect it into a separate government, and appointed him store-keeper.

On the 10th July, the Lords of Trade submitted to His Majesty a draught appointment of Walter Patterson as governor, also a description of a plan and a device for a new seal. On the 13th, Lord Hillsborough wrote the Lords of the Admiralty, reciting the appointment of Walter Patterson to be captain-general and governor-in-chief over the Island, and that "it is His Majesty's pleasure that your Lordships should grant him such powers as have been usually granted to the captain general of the rest of His Majesty's colonies and provinces in America." He also wrote to the Lord Chamberlain to give the necessary orders for the new governor to have the allowance of plate and other things which are customary on the like occasions.

On the 14th July, an order-in-council under the great seal was made, passing on the draught of Mr. Patterson's commission as governor, and also an order approving of the new seal and ordering the chief engraver to prepare a draught of it.

On the 4th August, an order-in-council was passed, approving of the instructions to Mr. Patterson, who, the same day, took the oaths required to be taken by governors of plantations. On the same date an order was made authorizing the Lords of the Admiralty to appoint a vice-admiral and officers of a court of admiralty for the Island of St. John.

On 4th December of the same year, the proprietors petitioned the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, setting out, in order to encourage settlers to repair thither, to secure their property there, and to recommend and enforce obedience to the laws, it was absolutely necessary that there be, as soon as possible, a church, a court house and a jail erected in Charlottetown, which is appointed to be the seat of government, and praying as

there is no fund belonging to the Island, that their Lordships would take the premises into consideration, and grant such relief as to their Lordships should seem proper.

A SEPARATE GOVERNMENT—GOVERNOR PATTERSON.

Though appointed in 1769, Mr. Patterson did not arrive in the Island until 30th August, 1770, when he at once entered upon the duties of his office. He seems to have been a man of very fair ability, and of a sanguine temperament. Unfortunately for his memory, the accounts we have of him have been largely handed down by his enemies, of whom he managed, in the latter part of his governorship, to acquire a great number. He evidently had the utmost faith in the future of the Island, in which he invested the greater part of his fortune, and where he acquired much property, all of which he subsequently lost. He died in England, a broken and ruined man.

It can be gathered from his correspondence, and from that of other residents contemporary with him, that, at least in the earlier part of his time here, he worked hard to improve the country and to promote its interests, and there can be no doubt but that very considerable advances in material prosperity were made. When he arrived, the Island was a wilderness. There were very few English people, the Acadian inhabitants were much more numerous, they were extremely poor, and their loyalty was very much questioned. There were no roads, and the means of traversing the country were of the rudest kind. The routes of travel over the Island were by water or by paths blazed through the woods. There were no public buildings, very few private ones, and these of

a very indifferent kind. When he was dismissed from his office, the population had materially increased, the inconveniences referred to were to some extent overcome, and the most pressing wants largely supplied.

In his first despatch to the Earl of Hillsborough, dated 21st October, 1770, he gives an interesting description of the Island, so far as he was then able to form an opinion. Ever since his arrival, he had been engaged in furnishing one of the houses in such manner as he hoped could keep out a little of the approaching cold, and in sending to different parts of the continent for provisions to maintain his family during the winter. Owing to the bad communications, he was able at that time to furnish a very indifferent description of the Island, though, so far as he could see, the soil seemed good and easily cultivated, and he was of opinion it would produce every kind of grain and vegetable, common in England, with little or no trouble, and that the fruits he had seen of the latter were much better than those in England, though raised in a very slovenly manner. The various woods near Charlottetown he describes as of very little use, except for firing, but in other parts of the Island there were some oaks and large pine trees in plenty. He mentions the different wild fowl, and describes the geese, brant and ducks, as of as good of their kinds as he ever met with. The beasts were principally bears, foxes, otters, wild-cats of a very large size, martins, squirrels and mice. That year the mice were so numerous that, in most places, they had destroyed the little which was attempted to be raised. The inhabitants said they appeared every seven years. He adds, as to the mice, "My opinion is, it depends entirely on the sort of winter we have, as I am informed the

last was an uncommon one, the snow falling before the frost came on, by which means the ground was kept soft, and the mice, instead of being partly destroyed by the frost, as is commonly the case, bred under the snow; they are, in size, something between our rats and mice in England."

As to fish, he says: "This side of the Island is but indifferently off for fish, except in the spring, when, I am told, we may have a small kind of cod, mackerel, trout, bass, smelts and several sorts of flat-fish, pretty plenty. At present there are only lobsters and oysters, neither very good." He had only been here a few weeks, and had evidently not yet learned much about the fisheries of this Island.

He speaks highly of the climate, and says that, in the winter season, the inhabitants "make all the frames for their houses, saw boards and do almost all their wood-work." The French inhabitants were mostly employed by a few British subjects in the fishery, and had been paid their wages in "clothes, rum, flour, powder and shot." Owing to this "Agriculture has been so much neglected there is not one hushel of corn raised by all the French inhabitants on the Island."

He reports that about one hundred and twenty families had arrived that summer, part sent by Mr. Montgomery, the lord advocate of Scotland, the rest by a Mr. Stewart, of that country; the last arrived about three weeks ago at Princetown, but, very unfortunately, for want of a pilot their vessel ran on shore at the entrance of the harbor, and is entirely lost and part of her cargo, but no lives."

As soon as possible after his arrival, the Governor convened some of the principal inhabitants at Charlottetown, and caused his

commission to be read. Mr. Phillips Callbeck, Mr. John Russell, Mr. Thomas Wright and Mr. Patrick Fergus were appointed to the Council. Mr. Wright was not a resident, only wintering here, but was willing to become one, if appointed surveyor-general of the Island, which Patterson recommended. Lieutenant-Governor DesBrisay had not yet arrived. The Governor was sworn in on 19th September, and the same day the proper oaths were administered to the officers of the government who were present; the chief justice (Duport) was given a commission for holding the Supreme Court, which was opened on the 24th. Acting upon instructions the Governor made inquiry into the sea-cow fishery, which he feared would be rendered useless, owing to the operations of a Mr. F. Gridley from the Magdalen islands, and of some New England fishermen, who often landed for a few days to kill these animals, and of the inhabitants of the Island, who had been endeavoring to carry on this fishery. In consequence, by the advice of Council, he had an act passed for regulating it, which was submitted for approval. This appears to have been the first enactment after the erection of the Island into a separate government. The sea-cow fishery was of much importance, and in these early days there was much correspondence and legislation affecting it. The animals were of great size, said to weigh as much as four thousand pounds. They frequented the waters of the gulf, and abounded about the Magdalens, and north shores of this Island. Cartier mentions them, and they were numerous for some years after Patterson's arrival, but were ultimately exterminated. Even in 1806, when Stewart wrote, there were very few remaining, though they were not extinct, and he calls attention to the matter. Their oil was

of a very fine quality, the flesh was used by some of the inhabitants, the skins were of great value for harness and other purposes and as an article of trade. It was sometimes an inch and a half in thickness. By some it is said to be extinct, but is likely the same as the walrus still found in Hudson Bay and possibly in other northern waters.

Patterson, almost immediately after his arrival, began to urge upon Lord Hillsborough the necessity there was for a church, a jail and a court house, which he estimated would cost about three thousand pounds, but which the Island could not itself build. There was not even a barn or other place to assemble the people in for worship, and a jail and court house could not be done without, "unless we are left to submit to all manner of injustice and violence. At present, this is only the shadow of a government without the substance, for there is not one house or place in or near this town that would confine a man contrary to his inclination."

Attention was also called to the badness of the communications between Charlottetown and the out-lying sections, "almost the whole depending on water carriage." To reach Prince Town involved a journey by boat to the head of the Hillsborough river, thence by land to St. Peters, and there a greater or less detention waiting for a chance boat on which to get a passage by water to Richmond Bay. This sometimes took two weeks. The route to Georgetown was the same as far as St. Peters, thence the travelers had to be ferried over the bay, take the land to Fortune, and there wait a chance by water to Georgetown, a long, round-about journey. The Governor pointed out how "easy, short and certain it could be made by cutting a road from the south side of the

Hillsborough river to the head of either Cardigan, Brudenell or Montague rivers." He urged the need of a road to Prince Town and to St. Peters. These three roads would give good communication to the principal parts of the Island. He pointed out that few things help more to make a country prosper than good roads. The whole could be made for five hundred pounds. Patterson persistently pressed for roads and eventually obtained them. He even risked some of his own means in procuring them. He was almost equally as persistent in his requests for a church, a jail and a court house.

At this same time also, he asked that five companies of soldiers be sent here, who could, without harm, be employed on public works. They would also keep the French inhabitants peaceable, in case of war, protect the place from privateers, and guard against attacks of the Nova Scotia Indians.

In July, 1771, the Governor writes Lord Hillsborough that he has ventured, at his own risk, to have a road laid out from Charlottetown to Prince Town, and, although the surveyor avoids, by his instructions, all swamps, difficult rivers and steep hills, the road, as measured, was only three-quarters of a mile more than if it were on a straight line, and is only thirty-three miles. His reason for undertaking it was, that a Mr. Blaskowitz, one of Captain Holland's surveyors, wintered here, and, being detained in the spring, the Governor induced him to undertake it on much easier terms than otherwise he could have it done.

In the same report, he explains changes he has made in the plan of the town, which had been laid out by Mr. Morris, surveyor general of Nova Scotia, and, as this may be of interest to citizens, the passage is quoted, as follows: "I have taken the liberty to alter

the plan of this town, and have the honor to send that which I have adopted for Your Lordship's approbation. I think it the best calculated for a northern climate of any I have met with, as every house will have a southern aspect; there being but one row of houses on each range; by which means, likewise, there will be a communication from every back-yard into a street, which I look upon as a very great convenience.

"I have enlarged the town lots by adding twenty-four feet front and twenty feet in depth each, as they were too small to admit of all the conveniences necessary for a man in business, in a country where snow, in a great measure, prevents our building houses with double (?) roofs.

"I do not mean to give to every person who may apply a whole lot, nor to some not more than one-third, according to their abilities. And, as in the first settling of a town, every man must be something of a farmer, to supply his family with milk, butter, roots and all other vegetables, until there be a market, which we cannot expect will be the case soon, I have doubled the quantity of land in each pasture lot, as will appear by the plan; they were in the original only six acres each; besides which, there is a large common left for the purpose of extending the town, whenever that is necessary.

"I think it, upon the whole, the best calculated plan, both for usefulness and regularity. I have seen, and shall be highly flattered if it be approved by Your Lordship."

The plan accompanying this despatch gives the area of the whole as 7,300 acres, of which the town embraced 270, and 565 acres were reserved for the common. The roads to St. Peter's and Prince Town were thirty feet wide, and those to the pasture lots twenty feet. The roads covered sixty-four

acres. The remaining 6,401 acres were divided into pasture lots of twelve acres each. The town lots were eighty-four by one hundred and twenty feet. The five principal streets fronting on the river were to be one hundred feet in breadth, and the others eighty feet. The present sites of the Market House and St. Paul's church were reserved for a church, court house and jail. What is now Dundas Esplanade was reserved for an ordnance yard. The land along the shore, from Prince street to Pownal street, was set apart for store houses and a market place.

The square corresponding to our Jail Square was named Fitzherbert Square, but was farther east than the Jail Square, faced Queen street, and ran back to Pownal, and lay between Sydney and Dorchester streets. King's Square was called "North Square"; the others bore their present names. Great George street was the only street named on the plan. Considerable changes have since been made in this plan of the town, as well as in the roads leading from it, but that of the Royalty seems to be still the same, except in the widening of the roads.

Writing again on 18th October, 1771, Patterson reports the loss of Mr. Fergus, one of the Council, who had sailed the previous November in a small vessel from Three Rivers to Charlottetown. She was lost with all hands, in a snow-storm, on the coast of Nova Scotia. He had been missing until May, when the news of his loss was confirmed, but the Governor had omitted to report the accident. In the same letter, he again gives Lord Hillsborough an account of the Island and of its productions as follows:

"I promised Your Lordship some further accounts of the Island this autumn, and from everything I have tried, both in husbandry and in gardening, my expectations

are fully answered, and in many surpassed, such as the raising of Indian corn, which I have done this year myself, and very good too, though it was not planted by more than a month so early as it ought to have been. In every other part of America where I have been grain in general deteriorates, especially oats and barley; but here I have raised both this year to the full as good as the seed sown, which was the best I could purchase in London. The oats were of the Polish kind, as I judged our summer might resemble theirs in Poland, more than that of England, and believe we would be right if we used more of the continental seeds of Europe than we do. I never met with nor heard of such an increase of potatoes as I was told of yesterday by two servants belonging to Captain Holland. One of them planted six hushels, and has from them raised two hundred bushels; the other had a hundred and sixty bushels from three. This they offered to take their oaths of. Wheat has not had a fair trial yet, but I have every reason, from what has been done, to think we may have it as good as anywhere; and as to garden stuffs, there is no country produces better. In short, my Lord, if only the proprietors will exert themselves, this Island will, in a short time, be the Garden of America."

The British population in 1770, on Paterson's arrival, numbered only about a hundred and fifty families, but immigrants were beginning to come in, some coming of their own accord, but the greater part being sent to the Island by the few proprietors who were honestly trying to fulfil the conditions of their grants. We learn, from a letter of Chief Justice Duport to Lord Hillsborough, dated 15th October, 1771, that "since my last letter, dated the 3d ult., nine families are ar-

rived here, sent by Lieutenant Governor Des-Brisay, to settle on his lot near Charlotte-town. About seventy persons are also arrived at Magpic, who are come on their own account, to seek a settlement on this Island, and I hope they will be accommodated to their satisfaction, as it will be an encouragement to others to follow them on the same lay."

But it would seem that some of those coming to the Island were inclined to stray away, so, to offset the effect of this tendency, it was required that masters of vessels carrying passengers away from this Island must have a license to do so. In 1771 M David Higgins was appointed a commissioner at St. Andrews Town, in Kings county, to keep a "Public Pass Office," agreeable to an ordinance of Council "for prohibiting masters of vessels, or any other persons, from transporting or conveying away any persons out of this Island, without a license or pass." Offices, in consequence thereof, were established at the three capital towns in Queens, Kings and Prince counties.

The policy of His Majesty's government, with regard to the settlement of these colonies, was decidedly opposed to their being peopled by emigrants from other parts of the empire. The authorities were afraid of loss of population and the land-holding class also were afraid of their tenants emigrating. This was probably the real reason for the objections to settling the colonies with people from Great Britain and Ireland. A provision of the grants was, "That the settlers so to be introduced be Protestants, from such parts of Europe as are not within His Majesty's dominion." In this connection, Lieutenant Governor Des-Brisay, who was in Ireland, incurred the dis-

pleasure of the authorities by advertising for emigrants from that kingdom, to his lands in St. John's Island. On 9th November, 1773, J. Pownal, under secretary of state, wrote him a peremptory letter on the subject. After stating that, when in conversation with him, he had stated in strong terms his sense of the impropriety of the encouragement held out by these advertisements of Mr. DesBrisay's to immigration from Great Britain and Ireland to the Island of St. John's, he had trusted that his arguments to dissuade from such a proceeding would have had their effect, but it appeared that they had not been discontinued, and landowners, whose estates have suffered extremely by the emigration of their tenants, have made public complaint of the ill effects of these advertisements. That those complaints have been laid before the King, together with a copy of the advertisements, from "which it appears that you have not only held out encouragements to emigration, as proprietor of lands in the Island of St. John, but that you have unwarrantably presumed to recite, in the preamble of those advertisements, the offices which you hold under the King's royal commission, evidently with a design to give the greatest colour of authority to your proposals.

"I am commanded, therefore, by the Earl of Dartmouth, to acquaint you that all such publications must be immediately suppressed, and that if it shall appear that any of the King's subjects in Great Britain or Ireland shall have emigrated from these kingdoms in consequence of any encouragements you may have offered, you must expect to receive the strongest marks of His Majesty's displeasure."

In reply, Mr. DesBrisay expresses his concern that his advertisements should have given offense; he had never taken a tenant

from the north of Ireland without the consent of the proprietor, or agent, of the lands, and has now withdrawn his advertisement.

Immigration was a vital question, and various means were devised to answer it. Settlers were from time to time brought out by the proprietors, and others found their own way to the Island. Proposals from one Emanuel Lutterlot to Lieutenant Governor DesBrisay and the other proprietors of the Island of St. John, to furnish four thousand families as tenants and settlers on their respective estates in the said Island, were enclosed to Lord Dartmouth by Mr. DesBrisay, in May, 1773.

The proposals, which came to nothing, are interesting, as illustrating the means taken to settle these new possessions, and also the manner in which the German princes looked upon their subjects as a species of negotiable commodity. They hired them out as mercenaries in war, and were willing to dispose of them to supply population for new lands over the ocean. Lutterlot's proposals were:

1. To procure four thousand families, in three years from 20th March, 1773, or sooner, as can be ready, to be shipped in any ship or vessel from abroad, proper for that purpose, under inspection of agents of the proprietors and Mr. Lutterlot, said families to be delivered to the proprietor's agent at Port Joy, Richmond Bay, or Cardigan Bay (death, etc., excepted).

2. Mr. Lutterlot to bear all expenses of the families, from the time of perfecting their leases (which is to be done before they embarked), until landed in the Island of St. John. * * *

3. Major Lutterlot agreed to provide six months' provisions for each family, consisting, at least, of four persons, three of whom

to be capable to labor, the voyage to be included in the six months' provisions.

4. Each proprietor is to contract for not less than fifty families, and not to lease to each family less than one hundred acres.

5. The proprietor to give security at the rate of five pounds for each family.

Mr. Lutterlot was to get the fifth year's rent at one shilling an acre.

Rents to be one penny an acre for the first four years, and one shilling the fifth year, and thenceforth two shillings an acre.

On second best lands, one penny an acre for the first four years, and one shilling for the fifth year, and sixpence thereafter.

On third best lands, one penny an acre for the first four years, one shilling for the fifth year and forever thereafter.

Mr. DesBrisay, in a postscript, says: "Mr. Lutterlot is a gentleman of the strictest probity and honour. He is a major in the German service, and resident agent at London to Prince Ferdinand and other German princes, and is empowered by them to make the above proposals."

A time had now arrived when the Governor concluded that it would be practicable to establish a House of Assembly. In a despatch of 17th February, 1773, to Lord Dartmouth, he said that the increase of inhabitants during the previous summer enabled him to call a House of Representatives, as in the manner resolved upon by Council, namely, "by taking the voices of the whole people collectively, as belonging to one country, and waiving all kinds of qualification, except their being Protestants and residents; it is impossible to have any other terms, owing to the unequal distribution of the inhabitants over the Island, and the small number of freeholders there are among 'hem."

Wishing to have the representatives as

respectable as possible, their number, for the present, was limited to eighteen, as he knew there were about that many who would make a tolerable appearance. They were to meet in July. The Council, whose opinion the Governor asked as to calling a House of Assemblymen or Delegates, met on 17th February, and consisted of Mr. President (Wright), Mr. Attorney General (Callbeck), Mr. Allenby, and Mr. Spence. It resolved unanimously.

"That it is the opinion of this board that it would be conducive to the interests of this Island for an Assembly of Representatives to be called, and that, in their opinion, the Island is in a situation to admit of the calling thereof." In the afternoon meeting, the Governor and Chief Justice (Duport) being present, it was resolved "That a House of Representatives or General Assembly of the inhabitants of this Island be forthwith called."

This first House of Assembly held only one session. Robert Stewart was speaker. It passed thirteen acts, the most important of which was "An Act for the effectual recovery of certain of His Majesty's quit rents in the Island of St. John." This act will be referred to when the land question is being discussed. On 12th July Patterson consulted his Council, whether to continue or dissolve the House of Representatives. Their opinion agreed with his, that it was better to dissolve, as there was advice of many respectable people coming to the Island this summer, which, on a new election, would give a greater choice of men, and the number might be increased.

In 1774 the House passed a number of acts, of which one, "An act entitled an Act for Laying an Imposition on Retailers of Rum and Other Distilled Spirituous Liq-

uors," which passed its third reading by the Council, and was agreed to on 11th October, is of interest, as being the first act, other than a license act, to regulate the liquor business, and also as being the first attempt to raise money for public purposes by a law. Only twenty pounds a year was expected from it, and the Governor's reason for assenting to it was the absolute necessity for a little money to answer the common exigencies of government and to pay off some small debts already contracted.

In February, 1775, owing to the vessel in which his despatches were to have gone to England having been frozen into the harbor on the 21st December, when there happened severe frosts (remarkable as being uncommon so early in the season), Patterson determined to attempt a winter mail service. He endeavored to persuade some men to attempt a passage in a small canoe to Nova Scotia. He points out that, if successful without great difficulty, it would remove an objection made by many people against being here, namely, being shut out from intercourse with the rest of the world for so long in winter, and if successful, he would have rendered an essential service to the Island. The attempt was made from Wood Islands, and succeeded. Thus Patterson is entitled to the credit of inaugurating the winter mail service.

On 2d August, the Governor, who had been granted a year's leave of absence, sailed in the ship "Two Friends" for England, and, in the absence of the lieutenant governor, Mr. Callbeck, as the oldest councillor, assumed the administration of the government.

The year 1775 was not only marked by the inception of the winter mail service, and by the governor's departure for England,

but is notable for the descent of American privateers, which plundered the place, and carried away the leading members of the government, prisoners, to General Washington's headquarters. There were two privateers, which hailed from Marblehead. They were of about sixty tons each, and mounted six carriage guns and ten swivels each, and each carried a crew of eighty men. Their instructions were from General Washington to cruise at the entrance of the River St. Lawrence, to intercept such vessels as should be loaded with supplies for the British army at Boston. Mr. Stewart, who treats but briefly of this episode in our Island story, says: "Upon the arrival of these gentlemen (that is, Messors. Callbeck and Wright) at the headquarters of the American army, then at Cambridge in New England, it appeared that the rebel officers had acted in this manner totally without any orders from their superiors: they were immediately dismissed from their commands, and told by General Washington in their own style, 'that they had done those things which they ought not to have done, and left undone those things which it was their duty to have done,' their prisoners were immediately discharged with many polite expressions of regret for their sufferings, and the plundered property was all honorably restored." This, from the well-known character of Washington, and also from the fact that it was not the policy of the revolting provinces to antagonize the other colonies which had not joined in the revolt, is what might have been expected.

It is not, however, what the victims of the raid themselves say. Mr. John Russell Spence, a member of the Council, writing from Canso on 23d November, to Lord Dartmouth, informs him that, while

waiting there for a wind to take him to the Island of St. John's, he was, on the 20th, captured by the schooners, which had on board Messrs. Callbeck and Wright. He adds that, upon applying to the commanders, they released him and his wife and servants, giving them only their clothes and bedding, but that the rest of his effects they carried off. The Rev. Mr. DesBrisay was released with him. This is the only intimation of the latter's having been also captured that the writer has seen.

Mr. John Budd, clerk of the courts, writing on 25th November, mentions the plunder of supplies that had been collected for one hundred and three souls who had arrived late in the fall and settled on Lot 5, belonging to Messrs. Smith & Co. He had himself been seized and kept prisoner for forty-eight hours, and then discharged, and, on being discharged, at once notified Robert Stewart, senior councillor, requesting him to take command of the province.

Messrs. Wright and Callbeck, the principal sufferers, after they had reached Halifax, on their return from General Washington's headquarters, themselves made very full reports to Lord Dartmouth. Writing on 15th December from Halifax, Mr. Wright, after shortly relating their capture by "a number of armed men from two New England schooners, then at anchor before the town," goes on to say that "They plundered Governor Patterson's, Mr. Callbeck's and other houses, of almost every article which they thought worth carrying off, even the provisions which were stored for the winter; likewise the church furniture, provincial seal, etc. * * * From the reception we met with at the headquarters at Cambridge, and particularly from General Washington, I have reason to believe that these

transactions were not intended, but proceeded from a spirit of revenge, in the commanders of these vessels, on their having been informed that recruits had been raised on the Island, and sent for the defense of Quebec; of this they accused us with, to the General, and particularly that I (although it was my duty as a magistrate) had been very active thereto, in having attested them. We were released from our captivity, to make the best of our distressed situation, without the least offer of redress for the injuries we had sustained, to almost the inevitable ruin of my family."

Mr. Callbeck, writing on the 5th at great length, prefaces his dispatch with a recital of his efforts to assist a recruiting party sent to the Island by General Gage, and of the success which had attended his efforts. He goes on to say that the privateer made preparations to fire on the town, and their commanders, with armed parties, landed. To save the town from being burned, he resolved, having no force, to face them singly, when one of the parties made him prisoner, and instantly conveyed him on board of one of the privateers, after which they proceeded to commit the most wanton and flagrant outrages on Governor Patterson's interests and his houses. They possessed themselves of his property, to the amount of upwards of two thousand pounds sterling, and then sailed with him and Mr. Wright, whom they also made prisoner. Previous to attacking Charlottetown, they had been in the Gut of Canso three weeks, and captured five vessels loaded with fish, and on their return captured three more, without the least opposition. Not satiated with their flagitious depredations on the whole of his property and the common rights of mankind, these monsters bloodthirstily sought Mrs. Callbeck, for the

purpose (to use their own words) of cutting her throat, because her father, a Mr. Coffin, of Boston, is remarkable for his attachment to the government. She was, fortunately, out at his farm four miles distant, and escaped, but "these brutal violators of domestic felicity have left her without a single glass of wine, without a candle to burn, or a sufficiency of provisions of the bread-kind, most of the furniture of her house taken away, and, for what I know, all her clothes. They have certainly taken away her best things, together with her rings, bracelets, etc., none of which have been restored, although some of them have been seen wearing by the connections of these villains."

After a passage of fourteen days, the prisoners reached Winter Harbor, one hundred and ten miles east of Cambridge. They were received by Washington very politely. The relation of the barbarities inflicted on them affected the authorities so much that they were shortly afterwards liberated * *

* "Fearing a change in their favorable resolutions, which I had a right to expect, the Corporal (who had been employed on the Island recruiting) being a prisoner with me, and having accounts in his pockets of the money I advanced to carry on the service, I hastened away after three days' stay, and at a considerable expense have fortunately got thus far, having been brought in a state of captivity six hundred miles by sea, and traveled one hundred and twenty miles by land, all of which I have repeated on my return."

Mr. Callbeck then gives a lengthy statement of the state of the rebel forces, and of the condition of affairs in the New England provinces. On the 15th January, he again wrote at length, urging that measures be taken to provide for the future defence of the Island. Considerable further corre-

spondence took place between Callbeck and the home authorities, and also with General Howe, on the same subject, and Mr. Callbeck did take very active measures to put the Island in a posture of defense.

In October, 1776, the Council and House of Representatives jointly memorialized Lord Howe, praying for a vessel of defence to winter here, and propose that Lieutenant Edmund Dodd, commander of His Majesty's armed brig, the "Diligent," be granted them as their future safeguard. In February, 1777, the grand jury addressed Mr. Callbeck, president of the Council and acting governor, setting out the danger to life and property in which the inhabitants were, by reason of their firm attachment to their sovereign and the laws of their country, and pray "that every possible means may be put into execution for the immediate protection of this province."

The "Diligent" was stationed at Charlotetown during the summer of 1776, for the protection of the Island, and was relieved in November by the "Hunter," sloop of war, Captain Boyle, who wintered and spent the following summer, and until November, here for the same purpose. In December the "Hunter" brought from Halifax fifty stand of arms, one hundredweight of gunpowder, and musket balls in proportion, for a company being raised by Callbeck.

On eighteenth August, 1778, Callbeck again reported to Lord George Germain that the Island had again been invaded by two rebel privateers, who landed at St. Peters, and "began their accustomed wanton depredations, by shooting with grape shot oxen and sheep, and taking but very few of them away for use." He ordered a detachment of his own company, and Colonel Hierlihy's independent companies, who had been sent

here from New York by General Howe, to march against them, but the rebels had notice and got away. They took two schooners belonging to the Island. His Majesty's brigantine "Cabot," Commander Edmund Dodd, which was lying in the harbor, started in quest of the marauders, but could not come up with them.

In February, 1777, Callbeck writes to Lord George Germain, that he was endeavoring to persuade a man or two, with a Mr. Stewart, one of his officers, to attempt a passage in a small canoe to Nova Scotia, and hoped to succeed if the weather proved the least favorable. "The same was effected by Governor Patterson, and, if this second attempt succeeds, it will be a means of removing an objection which many people have made against living here, the being so long shut up from an intercourse with the rest of the world."

In April, 1777, Lord George Germain informed Patterson, in London, that a vote of three thousand pounds had been given for the civil establishment of the Island, and adds that it is His Majesty's pleasure that he return to his government, on the first opportunity of safe conveyance, which the governor did not do till three years later. Accompanying Lord Germain's despatch was an estimate of the civil establishment and incidental expenses attending the same, from the 1st of January, 1777, to the 1st of January, 1778, as follows:

To the salary of the Governor in Chief.....	£1,000
To the salary of the Chief Justice.....	400
To the salary of the Attorney General.....	200
To the salary of the Secretary and Registrar	300
To the salary of the Surveyor of Lands....	180
To the salary of the Minister of the Church of England.....	150
To the salary of the King's Agent.....	150
To the salary of the Clerk of the Crown and Coroner	120

To the salary of the Clerk of the Council..	80
To the salary of the Naval Officer.....	100
To the salary of the Sheriff or Provost Marshal	100
To the salary of a Schoolmaster.....	50
To an allowance for a Private Secretary, and for despatch bouts to and from the continent, and also for stallionery, firewood, &c., &c.....	170
	<hr/>
	£3,000

In May, 1778, Lord George Germain again informed Patterson that he had received the King's commands to signify to him His Majesty's pleasure that he immediately return to his government and avail himself of the first opportunity of a safe conveyance thereto. Patterson did not leave till the next year, when he was eight months on the way, having wintered according to Lieutenant Governor DesBrisay, either in Georgia or New York. He arrived in Charlottetown on 28th June, 1780, having been, he writes, six months of the eight at sea. His leave of absence for twelve months had been stretched out to five years, but he seems to have been working in the Island's interests during his long absence. Writing to Lord George Germain, on 6th July, he says: "I arrived here on the 28th ult. * * * My voyages (for I have had several) have all been uncommonly long, and, considering my anxiety to be here, they were to me excessively tedious. I was eight months from the time of my sailing till my arrival, six of which I was at sea."

He also speaks most highly of Mr. Callbeck's management of affairs during his absence. The colony had improved in his absence, he believes the population had doubled, and says, "They are comfortable in their situations, have large stocks of cattle, and abound with all the necessaries of life, as far as they regard the table."

The previous month (May) Mr. DesBrisay wrote, stating that he could not be happy under the command of Patterson, and asked to be appointed lieutenant governor of Nova Scotia, or, if he had to remain here, that he be given a salary as lieutenant governor, as his present salary of three hundred pounds as secretary is but small, owing to the high prices here. He enforced his request by giving the prices of various articles, which, as they may be of interest to present-day housekeepers, are here reproduced. It will be remembered that these prices are in sterling. They were:

	s.	d.	E
Beef, per pound.....	0.	7.	14c
Mutton, per pound.....	0.	7.	14c
Veal, per pound.....	0.	10.	20c
Pork, per pound.....	0.	6.	12c
Fresh butter, per pound.....	1.	3.	30c
A loaf bread, weight 3½ pounds.....	1.	3.	30c
Lump sugar, per pound.....	2.	6.	60c
Milk, a quart.....	0.	6.	12c
"And all other articles, wearing apparel, &c., &c., as dear in proportion."			

The Assembly was to have met the day of Patterson's arrival, but as a sufficient number to form a House did not attend, it was adjourned for four days, when curiosity brought every member to town who had heard of his arrival. They passed several acts, particularly one to change the name of the Island to "New Ireland." In urging its approval, he points out that the Island is constantly mistaken for a variety of places of the same name, with which it is surrounded; that "St. John's, Newfoundland, is the place longest known by that name to the majority of the mercantile and common people at home; and since ever it has been known, the ideas of fogs and barrenness have been annexed to it. We are so much confounded with this part in par-

ticular that people have even sailed for Newfoundland, thinking they were coming hither." He adds that the confusion occasioned in their correspondence was inconceivable.

The home government, however, would not assent to this name, as it was already appropriated, and suggested New Guernsey or New Angelsea.

In March, 1781, the Governor forwarded a number of acts for approval, among which it seems strange to us to find one entitled "An Act declaring that Baptism of Slaves shall not exempt them from Bondage."

In 1784, an important constitutional change was made in the Island government. In 1769, it had been erected into a government separate from Nova Scotia, and having a governor and lieutenant governor of its own. The Island was now to be annexed to Nova Scotia, and administered by a lieutenant governor. The Legislature was to be preserved intact, and every act of government was to be executed by the lieutenant governor, except when the governor-in-chief was in person on the spot. A commission as lieutenant governor was sent out to Patterson, which he read to the Council, and took the prescribed oaths. He appointed a new Council, which was the same as the old, except that Mr. Townshend, collector and naval officer, was added, and Mr. DesBrisay, who had been lieutenant governor, was left out. In a despatch to the secretary of state (Sydney), Patterson mentioned his successful efforts, largely at his own expense, to bring the Island out of chaos to order; referring to the enmity of Nova Scotia against the Island, on account of the latter's superiority in natural advantages. He referred to premature attempts

at settlement, from Ireland and Scotland, and injudicious efforts to carry on the fishery and trade under incompetent agents, which had been made. These and other difficulties, he says, were overcome, when the annexation of the Island to Nova Scotia did more harm than all other causes put together. But for this, and the influence of the governor of Nova Scotia (Parr), who threatened the loyalists and refugees that, if they went to the Island, he would not furnish them the supplies which the government had provided for them, there would have been two thousand more inhabitants than there are. He did not complain of the change on his own account, but did so on account of the officials. This arrangement, however, was of short duration. The Island of St. John, in common with Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, was soon affiliated with Canada, the governor general being Lord Dorchester, better known in Canadian history as Sir Guy Carleton.

At the close of the war for independence in the United States great numbers of loyalists left the republic and sought new homes in the remaining British provinces. A small number came to this Island and settled. They formed a most valuable addition to the population. Greater numbers would undoubtedly have come had the conditions of settlement been more favorable. It is true that, in 1783, a number of the proprietors offered to give one-fourth of their lands, aggregating one hundred and nine thousand acres, for settlement, to the loyalists, but comparatively few availed themselves of the offer. In fact, the proposition was so clogged with conditions as to deter many of this most desirable class from coming to the Island, rather than to encourage them to seek homes here. Ener-

getic measures do not seem to have been taken to bring them here in greater numbers. Patterson himself saw the importance of getting such a class of settlers, and put forth efforts to secure them, as also did his successor, later on, but he does not seem to have been seconded in this by the proprietors, although they had proffered the lands. Still, those that did come were a most valuable class of settlers and their descendants are yet to be found throughout the Island. A considerable number of settlers came from Rhode Island and we learn from Mr. Walter Johnston, in a series of letters published by him in Aberdeen, about 1821-22, that many of these or their children were, at the time he wrote, settled in Kings county. Writing to the secretary of state, in January, 1786, Patterson says that the influx of settlers was not up to expectation. Only about two hundred had arrived, and some families from Rhode Island, who expected a number more to come, who were leaving the United States on account of heavy taxes and want of trade there.

By despatch, dated 30th June, 1786, the secretary of state ordered Patterson to return to England to give an account of his conduct, of which complaints had been made. Colonel Fanning, late lieutenant governor of Nova Scotia, was appointed to take charge of the Island during Patterson's absence. Fanning was directed to repair immediately to St. John's Island, so that Patterson might sail in the fall. He left Halifax on 16th October, and with great difficulty reached the Island, by way of Pictou, on 4th November. He had asked Patterson to convene the Council. The latter reported to the secretary of state Fanning's arrival, bringing order for Patterson to return, but that he could not

leave this winter, as it would ruin his family. He had answered all previous charges, and his *ipse dixit* could add no weight; if these were new charges, the evidence to disprove them was here. As Fanning was to act only in his (Patterson's) absence, he would continue to command. Fanning abstained from controversy, and awaited further orders. On 5th April, 1787, the secretary of state replied to Patterson's letter, giving reasons for not transferring the government to Fanning, and informed him that His Majesty has now no longer need of his services, and ordered him to transfer to Fanning all public documents in his possession. On the 10th April in consequence of despatches received by way of Halifax, Fanning issued a proclamation publishing his commission. Patterson, who had not yet received the despatch of 5th April, held on to the government for a while longer. In June, he went to Quebec, to lay certain matters affecting the government before Lord Dorchester, and his long career as governor, and latterly as lieutenant governor, came to an end. He returned to the Island, after a few months' absence, and remained here for a couple of years, during which time he threw every possible obstacle in Fanning's way in carrying on the affairs of the province. He then went to England, with the hope of restoring his fortunes, but failed. He did not return to the Island, but died in England. It is evident that Patterson was a broken and ruined man, soured by misfortune and his long struggles to advance his own and the province's interests. He had invested his fortune here, and lost it. After his death, his widow sought to recover some of the wreck of his property, but failed. That he acted most indiscreetly in his dealings with Fanning, is evident. It was the conduct of a soured and disappointed man.

THE LAND QUESTION.

Almost at once, on Patterson's arrival, trouble began over the non-payment of the quit rents, and over the non-observance by the proprietors of the other conditions of their grants. Some few of these gentlemen honorably endeavored to fulfill their obligations, but the great majority quite ignored them. Bills drawn on the proprietors' agent by the officers of government, who depended upon the quit rents for their pay, were dishonored. Those who were without private resources were, for long periods, left without means of support. Year in and year out, there is the same story of these men's shameless breach of the conditions upon which they held their lands, and of the undertaking they had entered into when they procured the establishment of a separate government. Many of them held their lands simply for the purpose of speculation, without the slightest intention of performing the conditions of their grants. Unfortunately, they possessed sufficient influence with the authorities in England to thwart the efforts of the local government and legislature to compel them to discharge their obligations, or to re-vest the lands in the crown. Patterson doubtless had his faults, and much obloquy has been heaped upon him, but this was largely due to his attempts to remedy the grievous wrongs under which the people of this Island labored. Mr. Stewart denounces Patterson, and lauds his successor, Lieutenant Governor Fanning; but, while the measures, and more particularly the methods of enforcing them, taken by the former may have been indiscreet, and brought him under the displeasure of the colonial office, the course he tried to pursue was quite as much in the inter-

ests of the people as was that of the latter. Ceaseless remonstrances and complaints appear in the correspondence of the governor and officials, of the non-payment by the proprietors of the amounts due from them. Some of the officers' pay was in arrears for years. The home government was, time and again, memorialized by the proprietors to be relieved from the payment of the accumulated arrears of the quit rents, and usually had sufficient influence to gain their ends. Even the pay of the establishment, which they had voluntarily undertaken on the erection of the Island into a separate province, they managed to get saddled upon the much-enduring taxpayers of Great Britain. The inevitable results from the ill-advised formation of large proprietary estates, and of the impracticable quit rent system, were now being felt. The land question, as already stated, began to loom up almost immediately on Patterson's arrival, in 1770. Though the act for the better recovery of the quit rents, passed in the only session of the first General Assembly, received the royal assent, it remained a dead letter for some years. The governor seemed unwilling or afraid to enforce its provisions, or possibly, the proprietary opposition was too strong for him. However that may have been, it remained in abeyance for some years, while the arrears of quit rents went on accumulating and the salaries of the public officials remained unpaid. In 1776 the proprietors petitioned that the burden of the establishment should be assumed by the home government, when a grant of three thousand pounds was made for the civil government of the Island.

By a minute of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, dated 7th August, 1776, the receiver general of the Island was directed

"to take all proper means to enforce the payment of the arrears and of the accruing quit rents; and recover the same," with direction as to the application of the moneys recovered. There was then no receiver general, and nothing was done until Patterson's return in 1780, when he appointed Mr. Nesbit, clerk of the council, to the position. In 1781, the governor directed him, in accordance with the minute of August, 1776, to take proceedings under the act of 1773 against the townships then in arrear. In November a number of townships and half-townships were sold.

The proprietary interests in London were too strong to permit of this very proper action being approved, and, complaint having been made, a bill to regulate future proceedings was prepared in 1783 and sent out to the governor, with directions to have the same enacted by the Island Legislature. It contained a clause making the sales of 1781 voidable, upon repayment by the original proprietors of the purchase money, interest and charges incurred by the purchasers, together with a fair allowance for improvements. There were errors in the recital to this bill, of which the Governor availed himself, as a reason for not submitting it to the Assembly, and it was referred back to the secretary of state, with a statement of the facts attending the sales in 1781, and so justifying disobedience to the order to lay it before the Assembly. The committee of the Privy Council did not think the reason sufficient to justify the Governor in withholding the bill, but at the time no order thereon was made.

It is difficult, nowadays, to imagine a secretary for the colonies sending such a bill to a colonial parliament, with orders to have it enacted. It is much easier to

imagine what would happen to a bill presented in this manner.

In the beginning of 1784, Patterson dissolved the Assembly, and a general election was forthwith held, when an Assembly was elected which was hostile to the Governor. It began to criticise his administration, to condemn the land-sale proceedings of 1781, and was preparing a complaint to the King against him when he summarily dissolved it. Mr. John Stewart, author of the work already mentioned in these pages, took a prominent part in opposition to the Governor.

Another election was held in March, 1785, when a House entirely favorable to the Governor's views was elected, though, according to Mr. Stewart, who says this election cost Patterson and his friends nearly two thousand pounds sterling, "this was not accomplished without a severe struggle, much illegal conduct and an enormous expense, considering our small numbers and the infant state of the colony." Mr. Stewart's work is a very valuable one, but its author was hostile to Patterson and partial to his successor. Hence, what he says about the former should be accepted with reserve. Nothing was done in the first session of the new House, but the following year, 1786, a bill was passed to confirm the proceedings of 1781. This was an unwise proceeding on the part of Patterson and his friends. It was really a defiance of the home government, and while it may be heroic to defy those in whose power one is, yet it is usually wiser not to do so. The final result was that he was superseded. In the meantime the act was disallowed, the bill making the sales voidable was sent back with directions to lay it before the Assembly, which, being done, that body

forthwith rejected it. A private bill was then brought in, at Patterson's instance, purporting to be at the request of the purchasers, and passed, for restoring to the original proprietors the lands sold in 1781. But this was disallowed.

The proprietors preferred a complaint against Patterson and his council, and an investigation took place in 1789 before a committee of the Privy Council, which resulted in the dismissal of all the councillors from the board and the attorney general from his office. Patterson had been dismissed in 1787. Nothing further was done by the government with regard to the lands in dispute.

Although Patterson had been dismissed, the land question had not been laid. Complaints were made on behalf of the proprietors against the new governor, Fanning, and members of his Council, which they were compelled to meet in London, but they managed to vindicate themselves, though at great loss and inconvenience.

In 1797, the Legislature took the matter up, and, after careful inquiry, formulated the grievance of the province with regard to the lands, in a series of resolutions, in which the facts of the present conditions were fully and clearly set out.

The first resolution declared, after full investigation, that twenty-three townships (mentioning them), containing 458,580 acres, had not one settler resident thereon.

Second, twelve townships (mentioning them), containing 243,000 acres, have in all only thirty-six families. The townships mentioned in the two resolutions together embraced upwards of one-half the lands of the Island.

Thirdly, six townships, containing 120,000 acres, had only fifty families.

Fourthly, twenty-six townships were settled agreeably to the terms of the grants.

Fifthly, seven townships and parts of townships were not settled according to the terms and conditions of the grants, but the proprietors had made efforts for settlement, and spent considerable sums of money thereon.

The sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth resolutions, being a clear expression of the views of the assembly, are given in full, and are as follows:

Sixth, Resolved, That it appears to this House that the failure of so many of the proprietors, in performing the terms and conditions of their grants, has been highly injurious to the growth and prosperity of this Island ruinous to its inhabitants, and destructive of the just expectations and views of government, in its colonization and settlement.

Seventh, Resolved, That it is the opinion of this House that the various indulgences and long forbearance of government towards the proprietors who have failed in performing the terms and conditions of their grants, have had no other effect than enabling them to retain their lands, without exertion or expense, speculating on the industry of the colony and the disbursements of a few active proprietors in forwarding the settlement thereof.

Eighth, Resolved, That it appears to this House, and seems universally admitted, that this Island, was it fully settled, is adequate to the maintenance of upwards of half a million of inhabitants; and in which case it would be of great importance to the mother country, not only in the consumption of its manufactures but as a nursery for seamen from a very extensive fishery, which might be carried on around its coasts,

independent of the commerce which from its other productions would naturally arise.

Ninth, Resolved, That it appears to this House, that the progress which has been made in the neighboring colonies, and their flourishing state and rapid increase in population since the close of the American war, is chiefly to be attributed to the general escheat and forfeiture which has taken place of all the unsettled grants and the re-granting of such lands in small tracts to actual settlers.

Tenth, Resolved, That it appears to this House, that the greatest part of the population and improvements in the neighboring provinces are situated upon lands escheated, as above mentioned, and which had been originally granted nearly at the same time, and on similar terms and conditions, with the land of this Island.

The prayer of the Assembly's petition to the British government, setting out these resolutions, asked, "that such measures might be taken as were necessary to compel all the proprietors to fulfill the terms and conditions on which their lands were granted, or that the same should be escheated, and re-granted in small tracts, to actual settlers."

This representation was addressed to the Duke of Portland, the secretary of state having charge of colonial affairs, and was well received, but for some years nothing was done about it.

In 1801 the Assembly caused representations to be made to the home government, regarding the subject of this petition, and, in 1802, it was referred to a committee of the Council for Trade and Plantations for decision. At this time the arrears of quit rents amounted to £59,162, 17s. od., or nearly \$300,000, an enormous sum, a frac-

tion of which would have immensely improved the condition of the province. In fact, the arrears in some cases amounted to more than the lands would sell for at auction, hence these proprietors had now no inducement to fulfill the other terms of the grants, and settle their lands, and purchasers were not to be had who would buy the lands subject to this burden of arrears. The committee recommended that a composition should be accepted, which was decided upon, the composition being made smaller in proportion to the efforts made by the respective proprietors to settle their lands. They were divided into five classes. The first consisted of those whose lands had the full number of settlers required by the terms of settlement. From these only four years' quit rent was demanded, in lieu of the full amount from 1769 to 1801. The second class consisted of those whose lands had one-half the required number of settlers. Five years' quit rent was demanded from them. Those, whose townships had from one-fourth to one-half the required population, were to be charged nine years' quit rent in lieu of the arrears. Those who did not possess one-fourth the required number were charged with twelve years' quit rent, and those townships which had no settlers were charged with fifteen years' arrears. The defaulting proprietors were certainly not entitled to such generous treatment, but the effect of this arrangement was good, as, in a short time, nearly one-third of the lands were sold, and settlement received a great impetus. Those who retained their lands, in some cases did not pay even the composition, and again let the arrears accumulate, and when efforts were made to escheat their lands, they always had sufficient influence in London to procure

the disallowance of acts of the local Legislature having that object in view.

It is not the intention, in what it but a sketch, to enlarge upon the land question subsequent to this period. That subject would afford matter for a work much more extensive than this is intended to be. It has been deemed well, by the writer, to enter somewhat fully into the earlier stages of the question. As to its subsequent history, it must suffice to say that, for yet over three-quarters of a century, it remained a vexed question on the Island, keeping the people in a state of unrest. It was not finally disposed of until the estates not previously purchased became vested in the government of the Island, under the compulsory provisions of the "Land Purchase Act, 1877."

GOVERNOR FANNING'S ADMINISTRATION.

The position in which Colonel Fanning found himself, on his arrival in November, 1786, was an anomalous one. It has already been pointed out that Patterson refused to surrender the government to him until the following spring, when peremptory despatches arrived, dismissing him and ordering him to transfer the government to Fanning. There can be no question but that the latter was in a most awkward situation during the period between his arrival and Patterson's departure, the following year. He evidently bore himself with dignity, under trying circumstances, while Patterson weakened himself by the extraordinary ill-advised course he saw fit to pursue.

During the summer and autumn of 1787, the governor made a journey around the

Island and inspected the several settlements, upon which he made a report to the home government. He declares that, had the land been granted as in Nova Scotia, the provinces would not have been equaled, considering its extent, by any other part of the American dominions, but that, as it was, there were only five hundred families, including those of all nationalities. This must have been an underestimate. When Patterson came to the island, in 1770, there were one hundred and fifty British families. After the expulsion of the French, when Lord Rollo took possession of the Island, there remained, in 1764, a number of that nationality, amounting to three hundred, whom Colonel Haldimand wished to take to his lands in Canada. This was twenty-three years before Fanning wrote. The natural increase was most rapid, if reliance can be placed on the statements of Mr. Stewart, Patterson, and all who have referred to this subject. All writers on the early settlement of this Island and for the first quarter of the nineteenth century, comment upon the large families that were the rule. Moreover, wherever the conditions of life are hard, and there is a struggle to live, and luxury is unknown, it is the common experience that the birth-rate is high. And in this Island, in the early days, the life of the people was not by any means luxurious. They had to labor for a subsistence. The charge of race suicide can never be brought against the early settlers of any country. The first settlers in Prince Edward Island were certainly not guilty of anything of the kind, and the meaning of the term was unknown to them. The natural increase must have been large. When Patterson returned from England, in 1780, he reported that the population had nearly doubled in the five years of his absence. Of

the proprietors, Mr. Stewart, Captain John McDonald, Mr. Montgomery, Mr. DesBrisay and some others, had brought in a considerable number of settlers. We have seen that as early as 1775, when the American privateers were on the coast, provision had been made, on township No. 5, for a hundred and five settlers, who had lately arrived. Some had come of their own accord, and at the time of Fanning's itinerary the Revolutionary war with the United States was over, and a number of loyalists had come to the Island. Hence it seems that there must have been a larger population in 1787 than Fanning reported. It must be borne in mind, also, that all the early statements as to population were merely estimates. No census was taken.

The governor asked the secretary of state (Sydney) for instructions as to making grants to loyalists. It is evident that the Island government hoped for a large influx of population from this source. Fanning called the secretary's attention to the distinct grant of one-fourth of their lands, by the proprietors, for distribution among the loyalists by the governor-in-council, and pointed out the onerous claims and conditions now annexed to the grants by the proprietors, who would not allow the grantees to hold direct from the crown. He insisted that, unless the grants were made on as favorable terms as in Nova Scotia, disappointment to the loyalists must result. He hoped that the proprietors would allow the governor and council to sign patents for the one-fourth. If not, he said, settlers could not be expected, and some would go away to the lands in Nova Scotia and Cape Breton, which would be granted rent free, except for the quit rents. He reported to Nepean, under secretary of state, the terms offered by resident

proprietors, to loyalists and disbanded soldiers, who had settled or surrendered lands, but without a title. He enclosed a letter from a Mr. Edward Allen, who wrote on behalf of himself and others, refusing to accept the terms offered. The people of Bay Fortune had examined part of Cape Breton, and were now returned to this island, but all were determined to leave. The proprietors had ruined all prospect of getting settlers. In different forms, the same wretched story is told time and again.

With the sanction of Lord Dorchester, the governor-general, Fanning, in the autumn of 1787, cancelled the suspension of Mr. Wright from his office of surveyor-general, and also those of Messrs. Callbeck, Wright and Burns from their seats in the council, and on their giving satisfactory assurances of future good behavior. However, this did not save them, as they were dismissed by the secretary of state in 1789. Mr. Callbeck died the following year.

Previous to Fanning's arrival there had never been a printing press on the Island. In 1788 he induced a Mr. Robertson, a printer, to come to Charlottetown, and employed him in printing a complete copy of the laws. The journals and acts had never been printed, and some of the latter had been lost, and only imperfect manuscripts of others could be obtained. He forwarded a memorial from the council and assembly to Lord Dorchester, asking to have Robertson appointed king's printer, with a salary the same as that of the similar official in New Brunswick, as, unless he had a salary, he must leave the Island as the profits of his business here would not support his family. The secretary of state, to whom Lord Dorchester referred the memorial, saw no objection to the appointment, but refused to attach a salary to the office.

Robertson remained on the Island till 1798, when he printed the laws, a printed collection of which the Governor forwarded to the secretary of state. He then left the Island, which was again without a printing press.

Fanning had dissolved the Assembly immediately after assuming the government, and a new one was elected, being the fifth General Assembly convened on the Island. It met in January, 1788, when it passed only one act, being an act in addition to two recited acts relating to highways. This proved to be a very refractory Assembly. The ill-feeling between the friends of the late lieutenant-governor and the supporters of the present one gave rise to much friction. Fanning, thereupon, dissolved the Assembly, and issued writs for a new one, which met in March, 1790. He reported to the secretary that in this Assembly harmony prevailed. It certainly seems to have been a satisfactory one for the governor, as it was in existence for twelve years, and held no less than nine sessions. It may fairly be called the "Long Parliament" of this Island. The act changing the name of the Island from St. John to Prince Edward Island was passed by this Assembly, in its seventh session, in 1798.

Like his predecessor, Fanning had trouble with the proprietors. He seems to have acted with considerable tact, not lacking in firmness, and without making the personal enemies, who, in the end, proved too strong for Patterson. He tried to enforce the collection of the quit rents, and the proprietors complained of him to the secretary of state. Their complaints were, of the forced collection of rents, the escheating of their lands, and the uncertainty of tenure, to which, and not to their own neglect, they attributed the delay in settling the Island. As already pointed out, Fanning successfully defended

himself before the home government, his agent in arranging his defence in London being Major Robert Gray, who seems to have gone to England for that purpose. He was private secretary to the governor, and his name was long a prominent one in the public life of this Island.

In the autumn of 1790, when a war with Spain seemed likely to break out, the governor offered his military services, and, in the event of hostilities, suggested an attack on the south coast of Spanish America, which he thought would be successful. He had formerly served with the Creek and Cherokee Indians, of whose bravery and loyalty he had a high opinion, and with whom he would be willing to serve again. He urged the advantages that would result from the possession of the Floridas, and the ease with which they could be settled. Had they been retained by Great Britain, they would have been settled by people now in the United States. Many loyalists who came to Nova Scotia were forced by the cold to leave, and go to the southern states, some to the Creeks and Cherokees, and, if the Floridas were held by Great Britain they would settle them. As the strained relations with Spain did not, at that time, result in war, the governor had no opportunity of taking the field.

For some reason, there seems to have been considerable emigration from the Island during at least a part of Fanning's term of office. This was probably due to the unsatisfactory land conditions. In March, 1797, it had become so much a subject for anxiety that a memorial was adopted by the Assembly for a legislative enquiry into its cause, the report of which was forwarded, the following September, by the Governor, to the secretary of state. Toward the close of Fanning's administration, however, there began

to be an influx of settlers. The Earl of Selkirk, who possessed estates to the extent of eighty thousand acres, actively interested himself in peopling his lands. The year 1803 is a notable one in the history of Prince Edward Island, for that was the year when the "Polly," the ship so famed in this province, cast anchor in these waters, having brought a large number of passengers from Scotland, to settle on Lord Selkirk's estates. About this time he brought, in all, some eight hundred people to Prince Edward Island. They were of the finest class of emigrants that ever left the shores of Great Britain. They settled in what is known by the general name of the Belfast district. Their descendants still occupy the lands and homes which their forefathers occupied and made. They were an enterprising and energetic people, and transmitted their vigorous dispositions to their children and their children's children. Descendants of the "Polly's" passengers have been distinguished in almost every walk of life. They are to be found in every part of Canada and the United States, upholding the good name they inherited, and making their Island home known and respected wherever they may be. They have produced many men who have distinguished themselves in every profession, trade and walk in life. In the days when Prince Edward Island boasted of her fleet of sailing ships, the men of Point Prim, and the other sections peopled by the descendants of these immigrants, were found commanding ships in every sea. There was scarcely a house that had not sent out its one or more master mariners, and they were of the best. Lord Selkirk did well for this Island when he brought these immigrants to her shores.

The Earl himself was of a restless and venturesome nature. He seems, after some

years, to have wearied of his efforts here, and to have sought for other fields. His name is well known in the history of Manitoba and the northwest, where he made his strong personality felt, and whither he directed his efforts after leaving this Island.

Although Fanning had many difficulties to contend with, and had continual trouble with the proprietors over the quit rents, and encountered opposition and friction in numerous ways, he yet managed affairs with reasonable success. He was firm, but also conciliatory. When his term of office closed in 1805, his successor found matters running with comparative smoothness. Fanning himself had gained the good will of the Island people, and the approbation of the home government. The latter granted him a life pension equal to his salary, as a proof of their appreciation. The people, who had not been favorable to him when first he came among them presented him with a most laudatory address, signed by a hundred and twenty-five of the leading men when he retired from office, to which he made a feeling reply, from which the following passage may be quoted:

"I came hither with the strongest prejudices against both the Island and its inhabitants; but, on my arrival, my former opinion has been done away with, and eighteen years' continued residence has had the happy effect not only utterly to remove these ill-founded prejudices, but, on the contrary, to excite, with each revolving year, an increasing partiality in favor of the Island, and a warm attachment to its inhabitants; and at present I have no other expectation or intention, but of returning to pass the remainder of my days with you in this flourishing and delightful Island."

The address and reply were published on

the 16th of February, 1805, in the fourth number of the "Royal Herald." The editorial business notice in this early Prince Edward Island journal is in itself interesting, as showing the conditions which prevailed at that date. The paper, which was printed by James Bagnall, printer to the King's most excellent majesty it was announced, would be published regularly once a week, from 1st May to 1st November, the remainder of the year once a fortnight. "The price to be sixteen shillings a year, to be paid, one-half in advance, at the time of subscribing, or on the receipt of the first number in each half year. The paper to be punctually forwarded by every conveyance, to those who may not have the benefit of living in the town. Country produce and furs will be taken as payment, from those that cannot make it convenient to pay cash."

Until the coming of Lord Selkirk's settlers, little increase in population had taken place in Fanning's time. In fact, there was, as already intimated, an amount of emigration from the Island, which caused the authorities concern. Still, the Island was becoming more prosperous, and was beginning to develop a trade, while agricultural operations were being successfully carried on. Mr. Stewart, who was thoroughly well informed on all matters relating to the Island, and an acute observer, informs us that: "Our fisheries, which had been gradually reviving since 1784, promised to become again considerable, and afforded the means of recommencing a trade with the West India islands, by which we were abundantly supplied with their produce, upon very moderate terms; several cargoes of fish were also annually shipped for the European market, for which British manufactures, salt and wine were brought in return; besides the cod fishery,

the herring fishery was begun, and promised well, and our merchants had found means to obtain a considerable share in the produce of the great salmon fisheries carried on in our neighborhood on the continent, and upon the whole, there was every appearance of extensive and valuable fisheries being established to the great benefit of the Island, when the late war commenced (i. e., the renewal of the war with France), since which the fisheries have been almost given up; and our articles of export now consist of wheat, barley, oats, salt pork, butter, furs, seal oil and oysters, to Nova Scotia, with live cattle and some timber to Newfoundland, and occasionally a few cargoes of squared timbers to Great Britain. A few persons are also engaged in building ships, which are generally sold in Newfoundland. This is a business that will probably be carried on to a great extent, should the Newfoundland fisheries revive on the restoration of peace, as the great plenty of timber in several districts, and the reasonable rate at which the necessities of life are obtained, will enable us to build at a cheaper rate than they can do in Newfoundland, where the timber is now generally at such a distance from the harbors as to make it very expensive. Since 1792 the importation of any kind of provisions has totally ceased, and the export of these articles has gradually increased."

The provincial establishment was supported by grants from England, and the amount of revenue raised on the Island for public purposes was a mere trifle. The only taxes payable in 1806, when Stewart wrote, were a license duty on retailers of wines and spirituous liquors, a duty of ten pence a gallon on all wines and spirits imported, and two-pence a gallon on all porter, ale or strong beer imported. The absurdly small

revenue from these imports was the only fund for defraying the contingent expenses of government, and for providing roads and bridges, and keeping them in repair. It is not surprising that the means of communication between parts of the province were bad. In the Assembly of 1785 the sum of £161 2s 11d comprised the total amount voted for the support of His Majesty's government. In 1786 the Assembly was in a generous mood, and voted £365 15s 10d. In 1795 the vote was increased to £400.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR DES BARRES.

Colonel F. W. Des Barres, who was appointed to succeed Fanning in July, 1805, was an old man when he came to Prince Edward Island. He was a man of considerable ability and of literary and scientific attainments. He had been a captain in the army at the taking of Quebec, in 1759, and had been the first lieutenant-governor of Cape Breton, during the period when that Island had a separate government, and held that position for a couple of years. Like his successors in the governorship of Cape Breton, he had had a stormy time while there. At the time of his appointment to Prince Edward Island he was close upon eighty years of age, but his years did not interfere with the discharge of the duties of his office, which he held for eight years. He seems to have developed a conciliatory spirit since leaving Cape Breton, some twenty years previously. The machinery of government ran smoothly during his term in this Island, the province increased in population, and in other respects made good progress.

He met the House of Assembly, for the first time, on the 12th November, 1805. In the early days before responsible government, the lieutenant-governor was the author of his speeches to the House of Assembly, a fact to be borne in mind in reading the speeches to their "faithful Commons" of some of these gentlemen who held that distinguished position. In Des Barres' case, there was little in any session of the Legislature to call for comment. In his opening speech to the first House, he simply expressed his anxiety to provide for the welfare of the colony, and felt confident that, in his efforts, he would have the assistance of that body.

War was raging in Europe, and the struggle with the United States, though it did not break out until 1812, was already looming on the horizon. It threatened long before it came, and the governors of British colonies were instructed to take measures to provide for the contingency of war. Throughout Des Barres' time he was ever anxious on this point, and continually urged upon the House of Assembly the necessity for the Island's defence.

In 1806, he summoned a new House of Assembly. In opening it he referred to an increase of settlers, which had taken place, but complained of the slow progress being made by the colony.

In March, 1808, the House of Assembly memorialized the Duke of Kent, who seems to have been looked upon as the special patron of the Island named after him, for his influence with the British government to obtain a temporary allowance from the quit rents paid by the proprietors, to be laid out in the erection of public buildings, and in forming other establishments suitable and requisite for the convenience and respectability of the government, which, * * *

without help, the inhabitants are unable to effect. They do not seem to have succeeded in their application, as the following year the Legislature itself passed an act to raise money for these purposes.

On the very date of this memorial (28th March) the lieutenant-governor sent a message to the House of Assembly, in which he called attention to the necessity of providing measures for defense, and said:

"The uncertainty of the continuance of the peace and amity which has existed between His Majesty's government and the United States of America, and the defenceless state in which the Island is at present left without military protection, oblige me to call your particular attention to this circumstance, under a full persuasion that you will see the necessity of making provision for a sufficient supply for the expenses, which must unavoidably attend the subsistence of the militia in the event of their being required to perform military duty."

The House of Assembly went into committee on this message and resolved "That, in the present state of the country, it was not in their power, after the fullest consideration, to devise any means for immediately defraying the expense of the subsistence of the militia, in case of their being called upon to do military duty, in the absence of the detachment of His Majesty's troops."

This was evidently a disappointment to the old soldier, who, in his speech prologuing the House, said, "that he had suggested raising such a sum of money as might enable him, in case of need, to resist and repel any hostile attempts, he had trusted that the justice and expediency of his recommendations would have appeared sufficiently obvious, important and forceful to prompt its successful result."

There can be little question that the Island was not in a position to do much at this time, but that that they could have found some money is shown by the fact that the following year they provided means for raising sixteen hundred pounds for the erection of public buildings. But it should be borne in mind that, while under our early governors, the House of Assembly could provide money for the public service, it had no control over its expenditures. This was always a sore question in British colonies, before they obtained responsible government, or control of expenditures, and rendered them very chary of making grants. Much will be heard of this matter in the time of Lieutenant-Governor Smith, who succeeded Des Barres.

At this period, desertion from the navy and army were very common in North America. This was due to several causes. Many of the men were pressed into the service, and that mode of manning the ships was most unpopular. The discipline on board, also, was very severe, and the treatment of the men was often of a brutal character. Moreover, much better pay was offered in the United States mercantile marine. The right, claimed by Great Britain, to search United States vessels for such men, was one of the causes which led to the war of 1812. Statutes were enacted in various provinces, with a view to lessening this evil. In Prince Edward Island an act to prevent, under heavy penalties, the harbouring of deserters from the navy or the merchant service was passed, and rewards offered for apprehending deserters.

Colonel Des Barres met the House, for the last time, in 1812. The war with the United States had broken out. So far as it lay in his power, he had acted with energy, and now sought to infuse some of his

own enthusiasm into the Legislature. In his speech, opening the session, he informed the House that, on receiving intelligence of war being declared by the United States against the United Kingdom, he had convened the Council and, with its advice, had sent an officer with confidential despatches to Nova Scotia. As a result of that mission he had the assurance from the lieutenant-governor and admiral commanding of affording "for the service and protection of the Island such means as the actual conjunction of affairs might occasionally require." A very non-committal promise.

These hostile measures, rendering it imperatively necessary to adopt vigorous measures for efficient defence and security, he recommended, as the primary and most pressing object of the Legislature's duty, a revision and improvements of the militia laws and regulations.

"The faithful prosecution and discharge of that important duty will, no doubt, afford you not only a gratifying opportunity of evincing your zeal and attachment to our most gracious sovereign, and the best of constitutions on earth, but also of fostering the seeds of similar zeal and attachment amongst all ranks of individuals, which compose our several militia corps, whose laudable disposition I contemplate with heartfelt satisfaction, and from whose genuine spirit and activity I am led to entertain the most sanguine hopes that in critical occurrences they will prove themselves amply deserving the encouragements and rewards apportioned to them by your justice and liberality."

The House promised immediate attention to the matter, and a militia act, or, more strictly speaking, an act reviving former expired militia acts, was placed on the statute book.

This House of Assembly took up the

question of establishing a paper currency, to supply, in some degree, the deficiency of cash in the colony. This is a question that seems bound to come before every parliament, at some time or other. It is not so long since the "Rag Baby," as it was called, had its advocates in the Parliament of the dominion. In the United States the silver free coinage nostrum may be reckoned as in the same category. There was some excuse for it in this Island, where there was great inconvenience, owing to the scarcity of cash. Various, more or less crude, remedies for this inconvenience were from time to time adopted. At one time it was proposed to make wheat a legal tender. At another the silver dollar was ordered to be punched, the middle part to circulate as a shilling and the outer as a dollar. The object of the financial genius, who devised this scheme, was to keep the money on the Island. His seems a transparently absurd scheme, but the principle underlying it is precisely the same that is advocated by powerful interests in both Canada and the United States today. His was the raw, crude, original idea; theirs the development from that idea. Great numbers of these dollars were treated in this way. They are now very rare, and valued by the collectors of coins. It was found that the intrinsic value of the metal in the smaller piece was greater than its value in money, so an enterprising gentleman collected them and shipped them to England, to be sold as bullion, but the vessel in which they were sent was lost at sea and the silver with her. Later on, also, private individuals put in circulation their own copper coin, some specimens of which are now of very considerable market value, and are sought after by collectors. Issues of small notes by different persons were also made. Some of

these small notes were printed upon leather. They were redeemable in specie by their issuers, and, no doubt, were a convenience at the time. Advertisements of this kind of scrip may be seen in the newspapers as late as the '30s.

The House of Assembly of 1812 also passed a bill to authorize the emitting of certain bills or debentures within the Island, but this was thrown out by the Council.

Before passing from the General Assembly of 1812, the last to be convened by Colonel De Barres, it may be of interest to note the very high regard in which the earlier houses of Assembly held their own dignity. They were determined that the most punctilious respect, not only from the public, but from its own members as well, should be insisted upon by the House, which did not hesitate to punish any disregard for its privileges, no matter by whom shown. Did a member see fit to be absent without leave, or not to attend in proper time to his duties, Mr. Speaker very promptly despatched the sergeant-at-arms to bring the truant before the House. A curious incident in this connection is reported in the Journal of 1812.

Mr. Worrell, one of the members for King's county, who resided at Morell, seems to have been of an eccentric character. He had absented himself from his duties, and the speaker issued his warrant to bring him to the House. The warrant was entrusted to Mr. James Coles, who, after executing it, attended before the House, and stated that he had taken Mr. Worrell "and brought him to town, but that on the road from St. Peters Mr. Worrell offered him his fees if he would let him go, which Coles refused to take; and Mr. Worrell said that, if Coles took the fees he would have more fees to receive, by being ordered to go again after Mr. Worrell. And

further that he (Mr. Worrell) said he would not have suffered himself to be taken, had he known that Coles would not take his fees and discharge him."

During the same session a rather amusing instance of the House's treatment of anything savoring of contempt on the part of outsiders occurred.

The solicitor-general informed the House that he had information that a professional gentleman, lately arrived in this Island, had said to one or more members that the speaker and members, then sitting, were not a House, but a Convention, and moved that Benjamin Coffin, Esq., a member, be requested to state what he knew relative to the charge.

"Mr. Coffin stated that, on Monday last, he had seen Mr. Johnston, of this town, who had asserted to the effect that this House was not a House, but a Convention.

"Mr. Johnston, being sent for, appeared at the bar, and asserted that he was not bound to declare any professional opinion that he might have given.

"Mr. Coffin stated that Mr. Johnston had not been professionally employed, but had made the declaration before mentioned to several people in the street, at Mr. Sims' door.

"Mr. Johnston said that such was his opinion, and said he might have so expressed himself, and it still is his opinion.

"Mr. Solicitor-General moved, seconded by Mr. Nelson, that Mr. Johnston has been guilty of a high crime and misdemeanor in such his language, and that an humble address be presented to His Excellency, praying that he would order His Majesty's attorney-general to prosecute Mr. Johnson for such offense, which was unanimously resolved. The address was accordingly pre-

pared and presented to the lieutenant-governor.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR SMITH'S
ADMINISTRATION.

For a few months after Colonel Des Barres vacated the lieutenant-governorship, and before the arrival of his successor, Mr. Townshend administered the government. Mr. Smith succeeded Colonel Des Barres in 1813. He was a brother of Sir Sydney Smith, the hero of Acre. He was very different in character from his predecessor, and, in fact, from any of the men who have administered the government of this Island. A man of most arbitrary and despotic temperament, he was yet of considerable ability and of immense energy. During the ten years he held office he convened the Legislature only four times, and each time there was almost open war between that body and the lieutenant-governor, and in each case they were summarily prorogued, or dismissed, with scant courtesy. The House of Assembly was always ready to do battle with him, when it deemed its rights or privileges infringed upon, and yielded nothing.

He called the Assembly together on 15th of November, 1813. The writer has not been able to see the journal of this House, or to get a copy of the Lieutenant-Governor's speech opening it, and is indebted to the short history prepared by the late Rev. Dr. Sutherland for an abstract of it. There was nothing conciliatory about Mr. Smith himself, nor did his speech give any indications of weakness in that respect. In his opening speech, Dr. Sutherland tells us, "he told the members he had heard of dissensions and strife in the colony; that he

would have called them together sooner, but he was not certain that the public good would be served by it; that since his arrival he had not witnessed any strife, and hoped that the business of the country would be quietly prosecuted. However, as some of the messages from the House which came before him were not satisfactory, he concluded that the members were spending their time doing nothing, and on the 14th of January, 1814, he summarily dismissed them, telling them, in substance, that they were long enough together for all the good they accomplished. Certainly the journals do not show that much work was done, but the Assembly was impeded in various ways." He did not call another till July, 1817.

The period was an eventful one throughout the world. Napoleon now made his final desperate struggle, and was crushed. For nearly three years war with the United States continued. The Republic gained some notable successes on the sea and the lakes, and her privateers did much injury to British commerce. But she did not have it all her own way on the water, where some brilliant work was done by the British, notably, the famous naval duel between the "Shannon" and the "Chesapeake." On the other hand, the British kept her coasts in alarm, destroyed her trade, almost ruined the finances of the Republic, and of her Atlantic states; while, on land, the British and colonial forces made a splendid record of victory for themselves. They carried on the contest under great disadvantages and usually against tremendous odds. In the beginning of the war, they captured Detroit, though defended by immensely superior numbers. They won the victories of Queens-town Heights, Chateauguay, Lundy's Lane, Chrysler's Farm, and others. In 1814 they

captured Washington, and seized a great part of the coast of Maine. At the close of the war, the British and Canadians were in possession of Michigan. Under an incompetent commander, and opposed by overwhelming numbers, they were defeated by General Harrison (afterwards President) at the battle of the Thames, where Tecumseh fell. The British were also repulsed in an attack on New Orleans, made really after the close of the war, but before the peace was known to the combatants. Notwithstanding this reverse and the fact that for a generation Great Britain had been engaged in a life and death struggle with Napoleon, and, at times, with all Europe, the British and Canadians had decidedly the best of the war with the United States in 1812-14. On the whole, the contest was most successfully waged by them. While its close found them in possession of a large area of United States territory, no hostile force had been able to maintain a footing on Canadian soil. During the war, Prince Edward Island suffered no molestation, and made steady progress.

On the 8th of July, 1817, after three and a half years' rule without its assistance, Smith convened the same House of Assembly, the third session of which he had so unceremoniously prorogued. The opening speech contained little of local importance, and gave no hint of the reason for not having convened the House during the long period since the last session. Matters went smoothly until the 6th August, when the House adjourned till the 14th. The members, during the session, till this adjournment, had devoted their attention altogether to routine work, and to taking up such business affecting the province as they deemed expedient and necessary. They seemed to

have determined to avoid any contest with the Lieutenant Governor until such time as they should have attended to the pressing business of the community. Consequently, this part of the session was calm and uneventful. But the House, while it kept its complaints and grievances in abeyance, and preserved a most respectful attitude towards His Excellency, had not, by any means, forgotten its own dignity. They had carefully investigated the public expenditure, and voted a further supply. The speaker, in behalf of the "Commons of Prince Edward Island," presented the supply bill to His Excellency. The appropriations, they said, were not so large as they wished, but, knowing the limited means of the colony, they could not do more, and they reposed the highest confidence in His Excellency, that the funds raised would be "strictly and honorably applied." To this bill the Lieutenant Governor delayed his concurrence, in order to afford time for some requisite modifications, which might render it unexceptionable. He then, after consenting to a few bills, prorogued the Assembly. In doing so, he assured the members that "in all that he had done or abstained from doing, on the present occasion, he had allowed himself to be actuated by constitutional principle alone." He intimated that, when what he had reserved his assent to had undergone modification it might meet with his future concurrence.

The House was soon afterwards dissolved, and the general election held the same year. The new House met for the despatch of business on the 3d November, 1818. In opening the session the Lieutenant-Governor referred, among other matters, to the marriage of the Duke of Kent. Passing to local affairs, he expressed his

satisfaction with the increase of industry, the great improvement in agriculture, evidenced by the abundant crops, yielding ample means of support for the Island's inhabitants and a considerable surplus for export. He assured the Legislature that, whatever their collective wisdom might suggest, would be met on his part with very calm consideration—"pure constitutional principles and an earnest desire to do good and to hinder evil." All this sounded very well, but, unfortunately, the views of the members of the Assembly upon constitutional principles differed materially from those of the autocratic lieutenant-governor.

On 5th November, the House agreed to an address in reply to the speech. The address, while most dutifully expressed, severely criticised certain measures, "which were adopted here during the last winter to enforce payment of His Majesty's quit rents upon the original or old scale, and have produced the most distressing effects, particularly upon the lower classes of the community, arising chiefly from the ruinous costs and expenses thereby incurred, when it appeared to the inhabitants of this colony, by Your Excellency's proclamation, dated 1st October, 1816, that there was to be a 'fixed scale,' and a new rate of quit rents, to commence."

The address further expressed the "hope that this branch of the Legislature will, at no distant period, in common with our neighboring colonies, have a constitutional controlling power over at least part of the public monies of this Island."

The address also lamented "that the efforts of two branches of the Legislature, during the last session of the General Assembly, failed in meeting with his concurrence, when they presented a bill, grounded

on an act now and for some years in force in Nova Scotia, which has rendered the roads excellent throughout the province, and which bill * * would have highly improved the roads."

They thanked His Excellency for his determination to meet their suggestions with very calm consideration, pure constitutional principles, and an earnest desire to do good and hinder evil, and suggestively added that they were convinced that such disposition on his part would "best accord with the genuine principles of our incomparable constitution." This address, Smith, "from a sense of propriety," felt compelled to decline receiving, "on the ground of its containing unconstitutional animadversion." The Assembly having taken his message, refusing to receive the address, into consideration, failed to find in the address "any unconstitutional animadversion whatever," and begged to be informed when His Excellency would be pleased to receive the address.

In reply, the Lieutenant-Governor lamented that they should have thought proper again to press the reception of the address, which he had given so definitive a reply upon. * * * "The question involved a constitutional principle of the first importance, and therefore a point that could not possibly be conceded."

The Assembly would not recede from its position, and the address was never received, the only instance, so far as the writer has been able to ascertain, of such an occurrence in the proceedings of the Island House of Assembly.

Undeterred by the fate of their address, the Assembly settled down to consider such matters as they thought to be in the interests

of the province, as calmly as if nothing out of the way had occurred.

However, the matter was by no means forgotten, and, on 20th November, it was unanimously resolved "That the address intended to have been presented to His Excellency, the Lieutenant-Governor, in answer to his speech at the opening of the session, and the communications relative thereto, be inserted in the Prince Edward Island Gazette." Having passed this resolution, the Assembly resumed their consideration of the ordinary business of the country.

A special committee to consider the public accounts submitted to the Legislature by His Excellency, reported, very severely criticising some of the expenditures. They thought that the largest portion of the money spent on the militia might have been employed to more advantage on the impassable roads and bridges, for which it was intended.

£98. 18s. 4d. had been expended in the department of the chief overseer and deputy chief overseers of roads, and the committee regretted that only the sum £37. 12s. d. had been laid out on the roads, bridges and implements for the same, when the revenue was intended to be chiefly laid out thereon.

£54. 14s. 5d. had been paid Hon. W. Johnstone, and £7 to Hon. R. Gray, to be expended in a couple of law-suits. The committee could not "consistent with their duty, refrain from observing that they conceived these charges to be of a most extraordinary nature, and a misapplication of the public money."

In foreign mails the committee were happy to observe that the receipts were nearly adequate to the expenses, and they had great satisfaction in observing that the in-

land mails had been discontinued, as the advantage arising therefrom was trifling in comparison to the expense.

£77. 19s. 1d. had been laid out on the wharf in Charlottetown, and the committee conceived that this sum, together with the extravagant wharfage paid by the public, ought to have made more repairs and better improvements.

The committee were astonished to find that £316. 3s. 11d. had been issued for which no warrants appeared, which issues, they were decidedly of opinion, were in direct violation of the act respecting duties on wines, &c.

Finally the special committee begged "leave to remark that the monies raised by operation of the above recited act have been the subject of much discontent and want of harmony in this colony; and an alteration in that act, giving this House its share in the appropriation of that money would, in the opinion of the committee, conduce in a great degree to the prosperity of the Island, and most certainly would produce in the House a spirit of liberality to meet the future exigencies of the government."

This report was agreed to. It was evident that hostilities of a pronounced character were pending between the Assembly and His Excellency.

On 8th December, 1818, the Assembly formulated a series of very grave charges against Chief Justice Tremlitt, which they presented to the Lieutenant-Governor, accompanied by an address, setting forth that the Assembly deemed it expedient that the said chief justice should be no longer continued in his office, and prayed that His Excellency be pleased to suspend him from the exercise of his office, until His Majesty's pleasure should be known. To this Smith

replied that the matter naturally called for his most serious consideration and speedy decision, but its importance made it necessary for him to deliberate well, before acting in any way or even giving any further answer.

The Assembly, on 9th December, preferred very serious charges against the high sheriff, both in his office of sheriff and in his capacity of returning officer at the general election. These charges they presented to His Excellency, with an address praying that he be pleased to remove the said high sheriff from his official position.

But the Assembly were not satisfied with preferring their charges against the chief justice and the high sheriff. They considered that their most serious grounds of complaint were against the Lieutenant-Governor himself, and they were not disposed to overlook them, or to shirk the responsibility of formulating their grievances and preferring them against His Excellency to the highest authority. Consequently, on 15th December, the House unanimously agreed upon a series of resolutions, asserting their rights and privileges, and impeaching the conduct of His Excellency. These resolutions are of such importance, as an assertion of constitutional rights, and as showing the spirit of the people's representatives at that time, that they are worthy of being reproduced in full. They were as follows:

I. Resolved, That it is the undoubted privilege of this House to present addresses to the Lieutenant-Governor of the Colony.

II. Resolved, That it is equally the right of this House to remonstrate or complain to His Excellency, the Lieutenant-Governor, of any public acts of his government, if it shall see it right so to complain or remonstrate.

III. Resolved, That the right of remonstrance, in its very nature, implies the right of this House to present its remonstrance to the Lieutenant-Governor, and that it is his duty to receive it.

IV. Resolved, That the address of this House, in answer to His Excellency, the Lieutenant-Governor's speech, at the opening of the session, is loyal, respectful and constitutional.

V. Resolved, That the refusal of the Lieutenant-Governor to receive such address is without precedent, and tends to deprive His Majesty's loyal subjects in this Island of the most regular and constitutional channel, through which their wants or grievances can reach the throne.

VI. Resolved, That this House, notwithstanding the refusal of its address by the Lieutenant-Governor, has proceeded to the consideration of the public affairs of the Island, and has passed various bills, yet it has never lost sight of its most undoubted right, which it is the duty of the House to assert, and maintain unimpaired.

VII. Resolved, That the refusal of the Lieutenant-Governor to receive the said address is a direct infringement of the rights of this House, and a breach of those ancient privileges which were asked by the speaker, and acceded to by His Excellency, in the usual form, at the opening of the session.

VIII. Resolved, That an humble address be presented by this House to His Royal Highness, the Prince Regent, with a copy of His Excellency, the Lieutenant-Governor's speech to it, at the opening of the session, and the address of this House in answer thereto, which His Excellency has refused to receive, and also of these resolutions, and praying His Royal Highness will be graciously pleased to take such order in the matter as may insure to this House the future exercise of its rights and privileges, now refused to it by Lieutenant-Governor Smith.

IX. Resolved, That His Grace, the Duke of Richmond, governor-general, and commander-in-chief of the forces in British North America, be respectfully requested to transmit such address to His Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

The House was then adjourned till 6th January. When it met, on that date, a message was received from the Lieutenant-Governor, stating that he had sent a copy of the address concerning the chief justice to the secretary of state for the colonial department, requesting an early decision on the subject. With reference to the sheriff, the Assembly were certainly the proper judges of his conduct as returning officer, and he

would not offer any opinion on that subject, but the Lieutenant-Governor was not aware of any impropriety committed by him as sheriff, and trusted the House would not expect him to make any change in that office until the regular annual period, now not distant.

The special committee appointed to prepare an address to the Prince Regent, in conformity with the Assembly's resolutions respecting the Lieutenant-Governor, having reported the same, the House adopted the report. The address was drawn in terms of the resolutions, a copy of which was to be forwarded with it, and closed with a prayer that His Royal Highness would be graciously pleased to adopt such measures as might secure to them the future exercise of their constitutional privileges.

It was ordered that the speaker do, by letter, respectfully request His Grace, the Duke of Richmond, to transmit the said address to His Royal Highness, the Prince Regent.

This, however, was by no means the end of the Assembly's complaints and criticisms of Mr. Smith's conduct. The following day they resolved that it was a gross abuse and misapplication of the public money on the part of Lieutenant-Governor Smith to pay to the acting receiver-general certain mentioned sums, for escheating two townships, as these sums were issued without warrant from the revenue of the Island arising from certain acts, and being directed to be laid out on public roads and ferries, and such other uses as the Lieutenant-Governor, *with the advice of His Majesty's Council, shall from time to time order and direct.*

The same day the Assembly adopted another address to the Prince Regent, requesting that he would "direct that this House

may have the same control and power in appropriating the public monies of the colony as the Houses of Assembly in His Majesty's provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, for many years have had, within those provinces."

An address was then adopted to the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to forward the address to the Prince Regent, which His Excellency promised to do.

On 8th January, 1819, his Excellency prorogued the House, and so closed a very interesting and exciting session.

Soon afterwards he dissolved the House, and a general election was held. Fourteen of the members of the late House were re-elected. The new House proved as independent and tenacious of its rights and privileges as was its predecessor. Dr. Angus McAulay was elected speaker. It met on 25th July, and was summarily prorogued on 10th August.

On the 29th July, it was ordered by the House that the speaker lay before the House a communication to him, as speaker of the late House, by His Excellency, the Lieutenant-Governor, enclosing an extract from a despatch from Earl Bathurst, dated 19th November, 1819, and the answer, if any, received from the late Duke of Richmond on the subject of the address to the Prince Regent. The speaker, therefore, laid before the House his letter to the late Duke and His Grace's reply, and also a message from the Lieutenant-Governor to him, enclosing an extract from a despatch from Earl Bathurst, dated 13th November, 1819. An address to the Lieutenant-Governor was then prepared, requesting His Excellency to cause to be laid before the House a copy of the declaration of persons present in the

House of Assembly on the 15th December, 1818, alluded to in the extract from Earl Bathurst's despatch.

The Lieutenant-Governor, "on the most mature consideration," refused to give any further information to the House of Assembly, than he felt it his duty to give to a former House, on a matter peculiarly relating to themselves. A committee appointed to consider the several documents relative to Earl Bathurst's despatch, and His Excellency's message in answer to the House's addresses, reported that they found the resolutions made by the late House, on 15th December, 1818, alluded to in said despatch, were made and passed by that House, in a regular and constitutional manner, previous to an adjournment, with the consent of the House, and not by the members subsequently assembled in an irregular and unconstitutional manner, as alleged in a private declaration of persons, transmitted to Earl Bathurst; and the committee also found that the address of the late House, of the 5th January, 1819, to the Prince Regent, referring to the said resolutions, was unanimously agreed to by the House, at which time Lieutenant-Governor Smith did not suggest that House to have been unconstitutionally convened. This report was agreed to by the House.

The Assembly next adopted and presented to His Excellency an address, requesting him to communicate to the House the answer, if any, received from the secretary of state, to the address of 8th December, 1818, relative to Chief Justice Tremlett. In reply, the Lieutenant-Governor said that he had received a despatch from Earl Bathurst on the subject, bearing date 11th May, 1819, in substance as follows:

"His Lordship entirely approves of my having forborne to comply with the address of the House of Assembly, which prayed for the suspension of the chief justice; he remarks on the absence of the evidence against him, upon which the Assembly state 'hem-selves to have proceeded, and adds, that, unless some great and serious criminality be proved against the chief justice, he should consider himself bound to refuse his acquiescence to any proposal for his removal."

The Assembly, on 5th August, unanimously adopted a series of resolutions, embodying their grievances against the Lieutenant-Governor. They set out, in substance, that the House of Assembly are the sole judges of what are breaches of their privileges, and have at all times a right to complain to His Majesty of any such breach committed, or supposed to be committed, by the Lieutenant-Governor, or any other whom the House cannot bring to account by their immediate process. That the journals ought to be received by the Lieutenant-Governor, as containing correct statements of the proceedings of the House.

"That the convening of the members of the last House of Assembly, and the laying at the same time before them the extract from Earl Bathurst's despatch, for their information, and then instantly dissolving them, without affording them any opportunity of making a reply, or of convincing Earl Bathurst of the facts, and also His Excellency's refusal to this House of complying with their address, requesting that he would be pleased, to furnish them with a copy of the declaration of persons alluded to in Earl Bathurst's despatch, clearly evince to this House His Excellency's total disinclination fairly to enter into merits; and that he has attempted virtually to disfranchise the loyal inhabitants of this colony,

by allowing the declaration of officious, unauthorized persons to be sent to His Majesty's ministers, in contradiction to the fair representations of the Legislative Assembly of this Island."

That the conduct of the Lieutenant-Governor has tended much to withdraw from him the confidence of the people. And they concluded with a resolution to present an address to the King, beseeching him to refer to the address of the last House, of 5th January, 1819, and the documents accompanying it, and also to these resolutions, and praying that His Majesty would make such order as would, in future, secure to this colony the constitutional rights of its inhabitants.

An address of the whole House, to the King, on the lines of the resolutions, was adopted, and the speaker was instructed to request the Governor-General, the Earl of Dalhousie, to transmit it, with the documents, to His Majesty.

It was evident that the relations between the Lieutenant-Governor and the House of Assembly were becoming more strained.

The day following that on which they adopted the address to the King, the Assembly adopted the report of the committee on public accounts, which stated that, "in the application of the monies, there appear to your committee many payments which are of an unprecedented nature, but, as the House of Assembly have no control whatever over any part of the disposal thereof, your committee deem it unnecessary at present, to make any further remarks thereon, more especially as the representations of former Houses on that subject have had no salutatory effect."

The same day, the House adopted a resolution, deeply lamenting that the Lieutenant-Governor, in transmitting to the colo-

nial department the address of the last House respecting the chief justice, did not also transmit the resolutions upon which it was founded, "after the solemn and unequivocal manner in which the Assembly declared their opinion concerning the Chief Justice, upon the clearest and fullest evidence of facts adduced before them on that subject, so highly important to the administration of justice in this colony."

The House then asked to be relieved from further attendance at this time.

In his speech proroguing the General Assembly, His Excellency said:

" * * * It is impossible for me to pass unnoticed some of the proceedings of the Lower House which have formally come to my knowledge through the copies of their journals, which have been communicated. From them, it appears that certain resolutions, reflecting upon me, have been adopted, and an address to His Majesty framed and founded on them, which is to be transmitted through His Excellency, the Governor-in-Chief, a measure equally extraordinary and unnecessary, inasmuch as I should myself, if I had been applied to, readily co-operated in any such measure, that would have attracted His Majesty's attention to my conduct, whose faithful servant I am."

"The address in question would thus have reached the throne unquestionably much sooner, and, let me add, with more certainty, as it remains to be seen what conduct His Lordship may feel it consistent with his duty to adopt on so delicate a point as the interposing in the political concerns of a distant colony.

"Under any circumstances, my hearty and earnest desire to promote the public welfare will continue undiminished, feeling, as I trust I ever shall, superior to all party

politics, and necessarily regarding with both regret and wonder those who allow themselves to be hurried away by them."

The next convention of the General Assembly was on 14th January, 1825, soon after Lieutenant-Governor Ready's assumption of the administration. In the intervening five years, Mr. Smith ruled without consulting the "faithful commons." The Lieutenant-Governor appointed Mr. Ambrose Lane, his son-in-law, who had been a lieutenant in the army, to the position of registrar and master in chancery, though he was not a lawyer; another son-in-law, Mr. Carmichael, a gentleman against whom the Assembly had issued a warrant for contempt, was appointed secretary of the province. His Excellency seemed as if he were determined to antagonize the people of the Island to the utmost. He caused the revenues to be collected and expended as seemed best to himself. He was accused of promoting litigation, with the object of making expenses for himself and his friends. He was charged with disturbing titles to lands which had been held for forty or fifty years, in order to get fees for new grants, and of having by threats compelled parties who had obtained grants, while Mr. Townshend was administrator, to take out new ones, though Mr. Townshend's were perfectly good, and the forcing new ones to be taken out was only for the purpose of making costs. The feeling against the Lieutenant-Governor was rapidly approaching the boiling point.

At length, the leading men of the province determined to take measures to have the Lieutenant-Governor removed. Mr. John Stewart, already referred to several times, had long been the most prominent and influential man in the community, but

had for some time been out of active public life. He now emerged from his retirement, and took the lead in the agitation against His Excellency. A memorial, signed by forty of the leading inhabitants, was presented to the high sheriff of the Island, Mr. John McGregor, asking him to call a meeting of the inhabitants of Queens county, to consider the complaints and charges against the Lieutenant-Governor, and to devise measures to remedy them, and also to call similar meetings, at intervals of a week, in each of the other two counties, for the same purpose. Mr. McGregor called the meeting for Queens county, in Charlottetown, on 6th March 1823.

The memorial, asking to have the meeting called, states that this step was taken because of a "number of respectable persons being determined to rouse the colony into a proper sense of the injuries which have been inflicted on its inhabitants, from the same source." This source of course, was the Lieutenant-Governor.

At the Charlottetown meeting, the complaints and charges were formulated in a series of resolutions of great length, expressed with clearness and remarkable vigor. They repeated and elaborated all the charges and complaints, that had been preferred by the Houses of Assembly in the last sessions, and the meeting expressed their high approval of the conduct of the Assembly. The charges against the chief justice and the former high sheriff were set out fully. His Excellency's refusal to accept the address in reply to his opening speech from the Assembly, in 1817, was scathingly denounced. The expenditure of public money in unwarrantable ways, in costs to the Governor, his son-in-law and others, as well as in ways other than those for which it was

intended, were fully set forth. In short, all the charges previously made in the Assembly, and many additional ones, were included and amplified in the resolutions of the meeting, which, it was resolved, should be embodied in a petition to the King, with a prayer for redress, and for the removal of the Lieutenant-Governor from his said office in this Island.

Messrs. Stewart, McDonald, Mabey, Rollings, Dockendorf, Owen and McGregor were chosen a committee to act for the county. They were instructed, first, to embody the resolutions in an address to His Majesty, King George IV, concluding with a prayer for redress, and the removal of Lieutenant-Governor Smith; second, to send the same around the county for signature; third, to transmit the same to His Majesty.

The meetings for the other counties were duly held, and passed resolutions, differing somewhat, but to the same effect.

The committee had the address largely signed, and it was published in full in the Prince Edward Island Register, in September and October of the same year.

Consequently, immediately on the publication, H. Brose Lanc (registrar of the Court of Chancery, and a master in that court) moved for an attachment for contempt, against the seven members of the committee, and on Thursday, the 16th, His Excellency, as chancellor, granted an attachment against the persons complained of. The publisher of the Register, Mr. J. D. Hazard, was brought before the chancellor, but, upon giving a full explanation of the publication, he was discharged by the chancellor, with a severe reprimand.

The report of the attachment appeared in the Register of 25th October, and in the same number appeared the following:

"We understand that Captain John Stewart has gone to England to lay the petitions of this Island before His Majesty."

The other six members of the committee had been arrested, but Mr. Stewart escaped and went to England, where he presented the address before the proper authorities.

His six fellow-members were brought before His Excellency, as chancellor, on Mr. Lane's charge of contempt. The hearing lasted for several days, in a crowded courthouse. The proceedings and arguments of counsel were of great length, and are reported very fully in the Register newspaper. On the close of the hearing, the accused demanded that judgment should be given, and the penalty inflicted at once, but the chancellor decided to take time to consider, and they were allowed to go free until called upon, or, in a word, they were let go on suspended sentence. Nothing further, so far as the writer has seen, was done in the matter.

On the 24th of the following July (1824), the Register contained a copy of the following notice:

Downing Street, May 22.

The King has been pleased to appoint Lieutenant-Colonel John Ready to be lieutenant-governor of Prince Edward Island, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, in the room of Charles Douglas Smith, Esq., resigned.

So ended a very interesting constitutional episode, or series of such episodes, in the history of Prince Edward Island.

The Register of 24th of October announced the arrival of Colonel Ready to assume the government. He came in the brig "John," Captain Chantier, twenty-eight days from Bristol. He at once proceeded to the Barracks, the residence of the late Lieutenant-Governor, where he was received by

Mr. Smith and the members of His Majesty's Council.

Mr. Stewart came out in the same ship. The Register is careful to express the "grateful feeling that prevails towards Mr. Stewart, our active and energetic envoy, to whose promptitude, exertion and ability we are in great measure indebted for the gratifying and auspicious event, which has resulted from his mission to England, and which we hail as a new and happy era to this hitherto much neglected, though naturally highly favored Island."

Mr. Archibald arrived on Sunday, the 21st November, and was sworn in as successor to Chief Justice Tremblitt.

COLONEL JOHN READY'S ADMINISTRATION.

Colonel Ready's name should be always honored in Prince Edward Island. He soon won the confidence and respect of the people. He made their interests his own, acquainted himself with the country and with its needs. With energy and ability, he devoted himself to the work of building up and improving the province. Not by precept alone, but by his own example and active exertions, and largely at his own expense, he led the way in promoting the Island's welfare. He encouraged agriculture, which he saw must be the staple industry of the Island. To improve the stock, he imported from England some of the finest animals for breeding purposes that have been brought here. He gave an impetus to the farmer's profession, which it has never lost. He more than once visited all parts of the Island, informing himself of its capabilities and wants, and at the same time

making himself familiar with the condition of the people, and gaining a personal knowledge of their needs. He was an ancestor of Lord Milner, the late great South African viceroy, who, himself a great man, may well take pride in his ancestor's high character and ability.

Shortly after his arrival he caused a general election to be held. The Legislature was convened on 14th January, 1825. In the opening speech, His Excellency gave, as his reason for so soon calling the members together, the need of revising and continuing such beneficial acts as had expired, or were about to expire, and for considering such other measures as were necessary for the welfare and good government of the Island. He announced his intention, when the season permitted, to make himself personally acquainted with the state of the Island.

Much useful legislation was enacted at this session. Among other matters, the Legislature took up and enacted measures for the encouragement of education; for the preservation of oysters; for regulating juries; for regulating pilots; for regulating the fisheries of the Island; for preventing injuries arising from improper burning of woods (a very live question in Canada today); for providing revenue; for regulating the performance of statute labor. A large sum, from the small revenue, was devoted to roads and bridges. A bill to prevent the importation and circulation of base copper coin was introduced, but, on the motion for the third reading, got the six months' hoist. It has an interest in itself, as indicating the difficulty people experienced owing to the want of proper circulating currency.

A curious case of treatment of an obnoxious petition occurred on the 7th February, when, after reading a petition on be-

half of the inhabitants of Lot 28, it was moved that it lie on the table; the attorney general moved in amendment, that it be thrown under the table, and the amendment was carried.

The House went carefully into the expenditure since 1820, severely criticising many of the items. The various grievances and complaints against the late lieutenant-governor, and against the registrar of the court of chancery, and the proceedings mentioned in the last chapter, were gone into very fully, and submitted to His Excellency. The Assembly also took up the trade and commerce of the Island. They called attention to the act of the British Parliament, regulating trade between His Majesty's possessions in America and the West Indies, and other places in America and the West Indies, whereby the monopoly of colonial trade had been relaxed, and a more extensive market opened to the commerce of the British possessions, greatly to the benefit of the neighboring colonies, each of which has one or more ports from which the free trade may be carried on, but no port in this Island is named in the act, whereby this colony is deprived of this commerce; and begged His Excellency to bring the matter to the notice of the secretary of state, with a view to having one or more island ports thrown open to this trade. They suggested Charlottetown, Three Rivers and Richmond Bay as the ports which would most benefit the trade of the Island, by being made free ports.

The House was prorogued 24th March, and met in its second session on 12th October, of the same year. In the meantime Colonel Ready had endeavored to make himself fully acquainted with the state of the Island, and had visited almost every

part of it. On opening the session, he congratulated the Legislature on the increasing industry and tranquility he had everywhere witnessed.

It seems curious that the "Act declaring that Baptism of Slaves shall not exempt them from Bondage," passed in 1781, was not repealed until this session, having remained a blot on our statute book for forty-four years.

A petition from the Roman Catholic inhabitants for the right to vote at elections for the House of Assembly was brought up on 20th October, but, owing to the advanced state of the session, was deferred until the next, "when the same ought to have, and is entitled to, the serious consideration of the House."

The Assembly, during both these sessions, gave much consideration to the improvement of means of communication, and urged the extension of the roads and their widening and improvement. In the Lieutenant-Governor they found a man able and willing to forward their views to the utmost.

The General Assembly met next on 20th March, 1827. During the recess, Colonel Ready had spent some time in England, where he interested himself intelligently and practically in the welfare of the province. While there, he purchased a number of valuable horses, cattle and sheep, which he imported to the Island, and which did much to gain for this province the high reputation it long held for good live stock. Though His Excellency himself, in his speech, did not refer to this matter, yet the Assembly, in their reply, recognized its value, and expressed their thanks and their appreciation of its importance to this Island.

Into his speech the Lieutenant-Governor breathed an optimistic spirit. He men-

tioned his strong impression of the improving state of the Island. Referring to the improvement in internal communication since last session, he said: "The western line of road has been completed up to Prince Town. Surveys have been made for the purpose of carrying on this line to Cascumpeque and, the North Cape, its final object.

"The roads to Georgetown, the Bay of Fortune, and other settlements, have undergone material improvement."

Reference was made to the benefit that would be afforded by an inland post. He strongly recommended the formation of an agricultural society. Encouragement to a commencement of Georgetown and Prince Town was recommended, especially the former, as being particularly eligible for a fishery. He also congratulated the Assembly upon an increased revenue.

The House of Assembly, by resolution, asserted its sole right to originate and grant supplies, and to limit and direct the ends and purposes of such grants, which ought not to be changed or altered by the Council.

The petition of the Roman Catholic inhabitants, which had been brought up in the last session, was brought up again, but the resolution to grant their request was lost, by the casting vote of the speaker.

The Assembly took up the matter of inland mails, and recommended His Excellency to take such steps as he thought proper to have an inland mail to Prince Town, at least once a week in summer, and once a fortnight in winter, returning by Traveler's Rest (Kensington) where a postmaster might be appointed, thence by Bedeque and Tryon river, to Charlottetown, and also towards East Point, and to Three Rivers; and that this House would make good, in a future session, any expenses attending the

same. This seems to have been the beginning of the Island internal mail service, with its present numerous mail routes and offices.

The sole right of the House of Assembly to initiate money bills and control supply again came up. A lengthy correspondence between the House of Assembly and the Council took place, the former steadily insisting upon its rights and the latter claiming that, under the instructions to Governor Patterson, under which the House of Assembly was constituted, that House did not, exclusively of the Council, possess the right claimed.

Perhaps the most important act of this session was one for taking the census, being the first of its kind in this province. All previous statements of population were mere estimates, and not to be relied on. On taking the census under this act, the population of the whole Island was found to be 23,226, considerably more than was supposed, while Charlottetown could boast of 1,649 inhabitants out of the total. The expense of taking this first census, as shown by the public accounts submitted to the House the next session, amounted to £163, a very moderate sum for such a work. At the same time, the costs of the inland mails, which were established by His Excellency, by virtue of the resolution of the House already referred to, amounted to £75. 12s. 9½d.

In the session of 1828, His Excellency called attention to the agricultural improvement, which exceeded that of any former period, both as regards the proper cultivation of the soil, and the improvement of our horses, cattle, and farming stock of every description. The public accounts submitted during this session show, to the great pleasure of the House, an expenditure of £277.

8s. 9d., toward the support of schools in the Island, and the committee expressed their trust that every encouragement might be afforded to so desirable an object.

The close of this session was marked by a dead-lock between the House of Assembly and the Council. The latter demanded that an obnoxious message be expunged from the Assembly's journals, and informed the House that, until that was done, the Council would transact no business with the Assembly. The Assembly replying, expressed their surprise at the uncalled-for and unparliamentary conduct of the Council, and flatly refused to submit to the demand, and informed the Council that they would not expunge it, and never would do so, and that they would not submit to threats from that body. Consequently, the Council refused to assent to the appropriation bill, and the Legislature was prorogued, without the bill being passed.

The Assembly met again in March, 1829, when His Excellency again had the satisfaction of referring to the great progress that had been made in every respect. He pointed out the unsatisfactory situation caused by the rejection of the appropriation bill the previous session, and expressed the sincere hope that the first moments of sitting would be occupied in an earnest endeavor to bring the unfortunate misunderstanding of the last session to an amicable adjustment, and, to bring about this desirable end, he suggested a system of mutual compromise. He called attention to the need of classical schools, a question which the House of Assembly took up in earnest. The result was a resolution, recommending the establishment of a school, to be called the Central Academy. Up to that time there had only been a grammar school in Char-

lottetown, with one master. The Central Academy, which was not opened till June, 1836, was to be absolutely free from religious tests, and did a splendid work in the cause of higher education. In 1860 it gave way to the Prince of Wales College, where the good work of the old Academy has been continued and widened out, with the result that it has a reputation second to none in Canada for institutions of its character and scope.

About the same time, Saint Andrew's College was founded, by the Right Reverend Angus Bernard McEachern, first Roman Catholic bishop of Charlottetown, a man equally honored and respected by those of his own flock and by the Protestant inhabitants of this Island. It was subsequently moved to Charlottetown, and, with a changed name, developed into the present splendid educational institution, known so far and wide as St. Dunstan's College. The Legislature passed the act for the establishment of the academy, and also an act to authorize raising a loan to erect the necessary building for the academy, and for erecting a government house. They failed to float this loan in England, which was probably the cause of the long delay in opening the academy.

The session of 1830, which opened on 4th March, was the sixth and last of this House of Assembly. The increased cost of education, as evidencing the anxiety of the people to avail themselves of its advantages, was referred to with much satisfaction in the Lieutenant-Governor's speech. But the great subject mentioned in the speech was the conferring by the Imperial Parliament upon His Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects those rights and privileges which had been previously alone enjoyed by his Prot-

estant subjects, and his calling upon the Legislature here to relieve the Roman Catholics of the disabilities they laboured under. This act was passed, and inequalities, which should never have been introduced into the New World, were done away with.

This Assembly had been a most active and useful one, and had enacted a large amount of valuable legislation. It was composed of a superior class of men, several of them of abilities much beyond the common, and possessed of a thorough knowledge of their constitutional rights. The great struggle for responsible government made immense headway during the terms of Lieutenant-Governors Smith and Ready. With the former, the struggle was against unconstitutional and arbitrary power, despotically wielded by the individual, who was administrator of the government. In the latter case, it was against the oligarchic Council, which, quite irresponsible, assumed to itself powers and privileges properly vested in and belonging to the representatives of the people. The Assembly, well aware of its rights, and well led, asserted and maintained its position with firmness and dignity. Their work was difficult at best, but it was rendered much less onerous than otherwise it would have been by the assistance derived from the wisdom and conciliatory policy of His Excellency.

The Lieutenant-Governor met the new House in 1831, but the session of 1830 marked a great constitutional change the greatest before responsible government, and is, therefore, a fitting period at which to close this sketch.

In 1831 to the profound regret of all classes, Colonel Ready was recalled, and Captain Sir George Murray appointed to succeed him, but died before leaving Eng-

land. The people petitioned to have Colonel Ready retained, but too late. Sir Aretas W. Young, a worthy successor, had been appointed to the position, and arrived in Prince Edward Island in September.

The writer has now brought this sketch down through the early period of our Island's story, the discovery, the French ownership, the short period of annexation to Nova Scotia, and the trials and struggles of the pioneer days, and has gone, somewhat in detail into the opening stages of the fight for responsible government.

The scope of the work, of which this forms but a small part, includes articles by other pens, on the various subjects which go to make up the history of a country. These are to include education, militia, county history, the respective churches, bench and bar, agriculture, and other subjects, which in themselves comprise the history of the country, hence the writer will bring his work to an end. He trusts that he may inspire in his fellow Prince Edward Islanders an active and earnest interest in this sea-girt home of theirs and his. Though this Island is small in area, its record is one of which her children have just reason to be proud. It is the privilege and the duty of every child of Prince Edward Island to so bear himself as to promote her interests, and to raise her name even higher and make it more honored as the years roll by.

NOTE.

In preparing this sketch, the writer has experienced much difficulty in procuring his material. No complete copies of the early

records are to be had on the Island. The old newspaper files are very incomplete, and very few of the Journals of the House of Assembly, of the period treated of, are to be found. The papers of Mr. Ganong and Dr. S. E. Dawson, on the discovery period, published in the Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada, and the latter's invaluable work, published last year, on the Basin of the St. Lawrence, have been consulted by the writer, and have been of the utmost use to him.

He has also made use of Mr. Stewart's account of Prince Edward Island, published in 1806, for the period covered by it. He has availed himself, as far as possible, of the correspondence and public papers, on file in the Record office, in London, copies of which are in the Archives office in Ottawa, but, not having a copy at hand, he has not been able to avail himself of these papers as fully as he could wish.

He has also consulted Mr. Joseph Pope's "Jacques Cartier," and derived much assistance from it. He has carefully read the late Archbishop O'Brien's paper on Cabot's first voyage, published in the Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada, 1899, but is unable to agree with the conclusions of that distinguished scholar.

He wishes to express his obligation to Hon. L. C. Owen for furnishing him with copies of many of the early newspapers, and with much information from other sources.

He is also indebted to Messrs. F. W. Hyndman, Percy Pope, and other friends, for valuable suggestions, and for overlooking his manuscript.

Charlottetown, May, 1906.

