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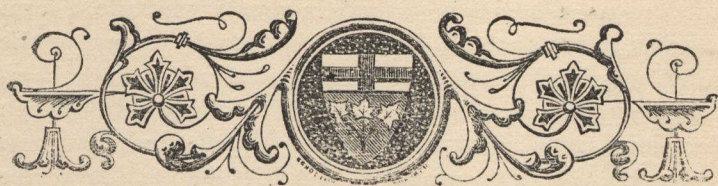
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THE  
CANADIAN ANTIQUARIAN,  
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VOL. III. MONTREAL, OCTOBER, 1874. No. 2.

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MONTREAL, AND ITS FORTIFICATIONS.

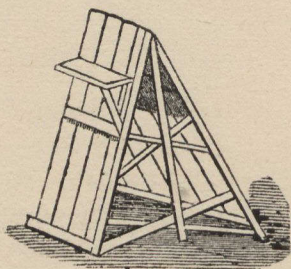
BY ALFRED SANDHAM.

**A**S an Art, fortification is very nearly as ancient as the existence of Society. "When men first assembled together for the purpose of mutual protection, and placed their habitations on the same spot, the law of necessity, springing in this case out of the principle of self defence, rendered it indispensable for them to adopt some means for securing their families, and their property against the sudden inroads of enemies. In early ages, men considered themselves as sufficiently protected by a single wall, from behind which they could with safety discharge their darts, arrows, and other missiles against an assailant; but when, in the progress of improvement, new and more powerful means of attack were discovered, it became necessary to increase, in a corresponding degree the means of resistance, and accordingly the feeble defensive structures of the primitive ages were in time succeeded by solid ramparts, flanked and commanded by elevated towers."\*

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\* Encyclopædia Britannica.

The savages of America, like those of other lands usually adopted as a means of defence, a circular palisade, a form which appears to have been adhered to by many of the tribes which inhabited that portion of America, now comprised within the limits of the Dominion of Canada. When Jacques Cartier in 1535, first visited the island whereon now stands the City of Montreal, he found it inhabited by a tribe of Indians, who had established themselves near the foot of the Mountain, which he named Mount Royal. Here they had erected their cabins or lodges, about 50 in number, the whole being encircled with a palisade formed of the trunks of trees set in a triple row. The outer and inner ranges inclined till they met and crossed near the summit,



SECTION OF INDIAN PALISADE.

while the upright row between them, aided by transverse braces, gave to the whole an abundant strength. Within were galleries for the defenders, rude ladders to mount them, and magazines of stones to throw down on the heads of the assailants. The entrance was a narrow portal, barely sufficient to admit the bodies of the savages who dwelt within these, the first fortifications on the Island of Montreal. The palisades must have enclosed a large area, as Cartier states that each of the 50 oblong dwellings were fifty yards or more in length, and 12 or 15 wide, while in the centre of the town was an open area, or public square, a stone's-throw in width. The population was also numerous, as in each of the dwellings resided many families.

How long those primitive fortifications withstood the attacks made by hostile tribes, we know not, and Champlain who visited the island in 1609 and 1611 makes no mention of them. It was during Champlain's second visit that he chose a site on the island, and cleared ground for a proposed trading post. The spot chosen was immediately above a small stream (now covered by Commissioner Street and St. Anns Market) which entered the St. Lawrence at what is now known as *Pointe à Callière*.\* Here, on the margin of the stream, in order to test the effects of the ice shove, he erected the first wall built on the island with mortar and bricks, the bricks being made from clay found near the spot. On, or near this spot, 31 years later, landed the intrepid *Maisonneuve*, and his little band of ardent followers—"The grain of mustard seed that was to grow until its branches overshadowed the land." May 18th, 1642, was the birth day of *Ville Marie*, as *Montreal* was named by its pious founders. It was a wild, yet beautiful scene which lay before their view, but they knew full well that amid the green woods which surrounded them, there were foes against whom they must defend themselves, and their first thought was to erect their homes with a view to mutual protection. Their dwellings were built closely together, and the whole was surrounded by palisades of wood and stone, known as the *Fort and Chateau of Ville Marie*,† and it was immediately outside these walls that the first Hospital (under the management of *Mademoiselle Mance*) was erected, and likewise enclosed with palisades.

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\* So called after the Chevalier *Hector de Calliere*, a native of *Torigny* in *Normandy*, who came to *Canada* as a member of the *Montreal Trading Company*, and was appointed *Governor of the City*. In 1698 he succeeded *Frontenac* as *Governor of New France*, and held the appointment until 1703. The great wisdom manifested by him during his term of office endeared him to the people. In 1701 he concluded a favorable treaty (at *Montreal*) with the *Indians*, thereby securing a long term of peace.

† The fort was built of wood, and was constructed by *Maisonneuve*, in accordance with plans made under the direction of *M. Louis D'Ailleboust*, *Governor of Canada*.—*Viger's Notes to Dollier de Casson's His. of Montreal*, published by the *Montreal His. Soc.*

The Fort was the scene of many attacks by the Indians, and at times it was dangerous to pass beyond the palisades. In front of its walls, Maisonneuve proved to his followers that while he desired their safety, he himself was no coward, but ready if needs be, to face single handed the savage hordes. Near this fort was also erected a windmill for the use of the colonists. The fort gradually fell into decay\* and



OLD ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH CHURCH, PLACE D'ARMES.

the remaining portion of timber and stone was used in the erection of part of the first Parish Church in Place d'Armes

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\* On or near this site DeCalliere subsequently erected his private residence, known as the Chateau Calliere. Mr. Viger in his Notes to the History of Montreal, says, that in his early days he had seen traces of the old fortifications at Point a Calliere.

in 1672.\* As years rolled by, the demands of the increasing population required the erection of another Mill at the eastern extremity of the town, as laid out by Maisonneuve. Accordingly an elevation at the lower end of Notre Dame Street† was chosen and about the year 1680, the mill was erected, and surrounded by a wall, which continued to serve as a battery for the defence of the town, the "guns commanding the whole extent of the streets from one end to the other." Of the final demolition of this fort I shall speak hereafter, and shall now proceed to review the events which led to the erection of fortifications of sufficient extent to enclose the town itself. In 1664, the English acquired possession of the Province of New York, and being desirous of making as much as possible out of their new acquisition, they sought, and obtained, a large portion of the fur trade which had hitherto been wholly centred in Montreal. The success which attended their efforts led to much jealousy between them and the French. To secure themselves in the matter, the English managed to retain as allies and friends, the powerful Iroquois, who proved of great service in repelling the incursions of the French. As the French settlements increased, the colonists assumed offensive operations on the New England frontier, and the spirit of the British being roused, the result was that both parties, aided by the Indians, carried on a destructive warfare. Montreal naturally became the point of attack, and to protect the town, the Governor, M. de Callière determined to erect fortifications. He issued orders, in 1684, to the inhabitants, requiring them to cut down, and bring in large stakes of cedar. To this order a ready response was given, the inhabitants having worked so vigorously during the winter of that year, that early in the spring of 1685 six hundred men were started to work in erect-

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\* "For the erection of this Church, contributions of money, material or labor were proffered, and the priests of the Seminary resolved to demolish the Chateau and fort of Ville Marie, which was falling into ruins, and to use the timber and stone in the new building."

† Now Dalhousie Square.

ing the palisade. This when completed, rose about 15 feet above the ground, with watch towers, platforms, and a gate, so that the place might be shut and guarded. For this work the inhabitants were compelled to furnish the stakes, which were then put up at the expense of the King. As might be expected, these wooden erections did not prove very durable, and repairs had to be made each year.

In 1713, by the treaty of Utrecht, peace was ensured to France, and as a natural result, the resources of the colony in New France were greatly developed. It was now (1713) resolved to construct in the future, the enclosure at Montreal, in stone, and in lieu of furnishing the stakes for the wooden palisade, it was ordered that a portion of the expense of the new walls should be paid by the inhabitants. The Engineer upon whom devolved the duty of preparing plans for the new works, was M. Chaussegros de Lery, who submitted two plans, one of which followed to some extent the lines of the wooden palisades, cutting off a portion of the town as then laid out. The plan adopted was that shewn on page 57, which was recommended by him on the ground "that it will not be more expensive than the other, while it will be incomparably better for defensible purposes." To provide for the erection of the new fortifications, an act was passed in May, 1716, authorizing M. de Ramezay, Governor of Montreal,\* to proceed with the work, and for the purpose, about 300,000 livres were to be advanced by the French King. One half of this sum was to be charged to His Majesty's account, while the other half was to be paid by the Seminary, (Siegneurs of the Island,) and the Inhabitants. The Seminary to pay yearly 2000 livres, and the citizens 4000 until the amount was paid off. Officers of the Army, and any others in the King's service were exempt from the tax. This tax was cheerfully paid by the inhabitants,

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\* Claude de Ramezay, Seigneur of la Gesse, Knight of the Military Order of St. Louis, was appointed Governor of Montreal in 1703. His son, J. Bpt. Nicholas Roch de Ramezay, signed the Capitulation of Quebec.



but the Seminary objected to the proportion charged them\* but without avail. They urged in their petition that "the tax had been made with little equity, since it levied 2000 livres yearly, which is the third of the whole tax, instead of which the Seminary ought not to pay the hundredth part of it in proportion to the number of those who are liable to pay." They also urged that they should be relieved on the grounds that they had "engaged to make large expenditure for the transportation and establishment of a mission among the Indians along the Lake of the Two Mountains." The French Counsel, however, viewed the matter in a different light, and in reply spoke of the manner in which the assessment had been made, and further stated :

"It is in view of that decree that the tax has been made. The Seminary however pretend to ignore it, although it had full knowledge of it before and after, and the counsel remember the trouble that the Abbé de St. Aubin took formerly to hinder it." The counsel does not think that anything which has been done ought to be changed.

(Signed,)      L. A. DE BOURBON.  
LE MARECHAL D'ESTREES.

In 1717, (18th August), De Lery forwarded to France a lengthy report as to the advantages offered by Montreal for the purpose of fortifications.

During the same year, De Lery commenced the work, but from lack of funds it was discontinued, and for some years nothing of consequence was done, and when, in 1718, a sum of 15,000 livres was voted for the erection of Prisons and Court Houses in Montreal and Quebec, De Lery vainly endeavored to induce the Government to assign a portion of the amount towards the continuance of his work.

The Counsel did not entertain De Lery's proposal, and the original document now lies in Paris, with a marginal

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\* Canadian MSS., pp. 667, 23rd May, 1720.

note therein, as follows: "*En delibere*,—intended to shew him the impossibility of what he proposes.—La Chapelle."

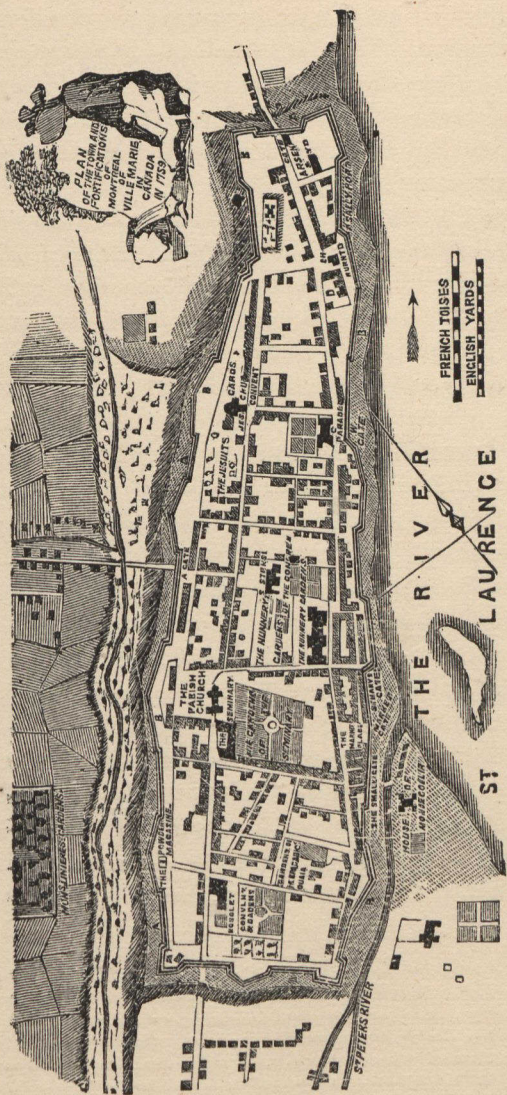
During the years which elapsed, up to 1721, no progress was made, as we learn from DeLery's report for that year. In 1721, the work was fairly entered upon, and De Lery spent the greater part of the summer at Montreal, superintending the work.

As the work progressed, considerable difficulty was experienced in negotiating with the inhabitants for the land in which the walls were to be erected.\* Accordingly in 1726, M. Begon the Intendant, issued an order requiring all proprietors of the lands to bring their titles of property to M. Rambault (*Procureur du Roi*,) that an estimate of their value might be made. The owners, however, had but little confidence in the official honesty of the day, and no attention was paid to the order, and in 1726, Begon, in his despatch, expresses his belief that the inhabitants "perhaps feared that they will be re-imbursed only according to the amount of their deeds, the lands having greatly increased in value since they have had possession of them." The Intendant, however, was not to be hindered in this manner, and therefore, notwithstanding the want of the title deeds, he appointed Commissioners to set a value upon them, according to the knowledge they had of the same. Of course this plan caused dissatisfaction which, however, was of little avail, for the land was *expropriated*, and the work upon the walls steadily progressed until they were finally completed. The fortifications were somewhat formidable in appearance, although subsequent events proved them to be of but little real value, and they were not destined to pass through any ordeal calculated to test their durability.

In 1747, a celebrated traveller,† who visited the town, describes it as being well fortified, surrounded by a high and thick wall. In front runs the River, while on the other

\* Vaudreuil's despatch, Oct. 14, 1723.

† Professor Kalm.



PLAN OF MONTREAL IN 1760.

sides is a deep ditch, filled with water, which secures the inhabitants against all danger from sudden incursions of the enemy. It cannot, however, stand a long siege, as on account of its extent, it would require a large garrison. The gates are numerous, there being five on the river side."

Fortunately the inhabitants were not exposed to much danger or suffering at the hands of an enemy, and we question whether any fortified city ever fell more easily into the hands of its captors, than did the good City of Montreal, when on the morning of the 8th of September 1760, Amherst's\* army entered with colors flying and drums beating, to take possession of its forts and towers, and on that day from its walls was thrown to the breeze the red banner of England.

In view of the following letter from a French officer, can we wonder that the brave Vaudreuil should have accepted the terms proposed. No more desperate position could be conceived. The writer states: "We were shut up in Montreal. Amherst's army appeared in sight on the side towards the Lachine gate, on the 7th September, about 3 in the afternoon, and General Murray, with his army from Quebec appeared two hours after at the opposite side of the town. Thus the black crisis was at hand for the fate of Canada. Montreal was no ways susceptible of a defence. It was surrounded with walls, built with design only to preserve the inhabitants from the incursions of the Indians, little imagining at that time, that it would become the theatre of a regular war, and that one day they would see formid-

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\* Jeffrey, Lord Amherst, was born in Kent, England, January 29th, 1717. He entered the Army in 1731. In 1758, (16th March), he sailed from Portsmouth, as Major-General, having command of the troops destined for the siege of Louisbourg, which place he captured on the 26th of July following. In 1759 he commanded one of the armies formed for the conquest of Canada. Having captured several minor forts, Montreal surrendered to his army, on the 8th September, 1760. He continued in command in Canada until 1763, when he returned to England. For his gallant services he was (in 1776) created Baron Amherst of Holmdale in Kent, and in 1782 received another Patent as Baron Amherst of Montreal. He died (leaving no issue) at his seat in Kent, August 3, 1791.

able armies of regular well disciplined troops before its walls.\* We were, however, all pent up in that miserable bad place, without provisions, a thousand times worse than a position in an open field, whose pitiful walls could not resist two hours cannonade, without being levelled to the ground, and when we would have been forced to surrender at discretion if the English had insisted upon it. The night between the 7th and 8th was passed in negotiating for the Articles of Capitulation. But in the morning all the difficulties were removed, and Gen. Amherst accorded conditions infinitely more favorable than could be expected in the circumstances."

Whatever value the French inhabitants may have placed upon their stone walls, the troops do not appear to have placed much faith in them as a means of defence, and after the capitulation to the English, the new rulers paying but little attention to them, they gradually fell into decay, and when in 1775, Montgomery† and the American troops appeared in front of the town, and demanded its surrender, the citizens, although knowing full well that their ruined walls would prove no defence, determined to enforce, if possible, the observance of military custom, ere they surrendered, and while they had neither ammunition, artillery, troops nor provisions to withstand a siege, they drew up their own articles of capitulation, which were accepted, and on the 13th November, 1775, at 9 o'clock, the Continental troops took possession by the Recollet Gate, only, however, to retain their position for a few brief months, when the old flag again floated from "Citadel Hill." From this time onward, Montreal prospered, and extended its borders in every direction, so much so, that in 1797, the city having o'erleaped its former bounds, and the walls having become a decided nu-

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\* See Plan of Montreal at time of the conquest, Page 57,

† Brigadier General Richard Montgomery, was born in Ireland in 1737. He entered the British Army, and served under Wolfe at Quebec; but subsequently entered the Continental (American) Army, and was placed in command of the force sent to conquer Canada. On the 13th November, 1775, Montreal was captured; but he lost his life in the attack upon Quebec, on December of the same year.

sance, it was resolved to remove them. The Lower Canada House of Assembly, in 1801, consequently passed an Act appointing the Hon. James McGill,\* Hon. John Richardson,† and Jean Marie Mondelet, Esq., N.P.,‡ Commissioners, to remove them. The walls having been erected at the joint expense of the Government and Citizens, a similar partition attended the cost of their removal, the expense being equally divided.

As we have previously stated, a considerable portion of the land on which the walls were erected, had been taken without compensation. The Act passed in 1801, provided: "That it is just and reasonable that the lands which the said walls and fortifications now occupy, and which do not belong to His Majesty, should be delivered up to the lawful proprietors thereof, their heirs or assigns." The settlement of claims under this Act required several years to complete, and in the mean time, the Act was continued, until finally, in 1817, the walls were entirely removed. A glance at the map§ will shew those acquainted with the present City, that the walls extended along the river front from the corner of the old barracks, to the foot of McGill Street, along

\* Hon. James McGill was born in Glasgow, Scotland, on the 6th October, 1744. While a young man he emigrated to Canada, and settled in Montreal, engaging successfully in commercial pursuits. His integrity, public spirit, and practical good sense, gained for him the confidence of his fellow citizens, and he was elected their representative in Parliament, and continued for some years as such. He died at Montreal, on the 19th December, 1813, at the age of 69 years. Not having any children, he bequeathed his beautiful estate of Burnside, with a sum of £10,000, for the foundation of the University which now bears his name.

† Hon. John Richardson was for some years a member of the Executive and Legislative Councils of Lower Canada. He was distinguished during a residence of near fifty years in the Province, by the rectitude and consistency of his conduct, by his spirit of enterprise in promoting improvement, and by the most extensive benevolence. He was born at Portsoy, in the County of Banff, North Britain, and emigrated to the Colonies (now the United States) in 1774, and came to Canada in 1787, where he attained great eminence as a merchant; and displayed, in his long career of public service, the talent with which he was endowed. He died on the 18th of May, 1831, in the 77th year of his age. The Richardson Wing of the Montreal General Hospital was erected to his memory.

‡ Jean Marie Mondelet, (Father of Judge Mondelet,) was son of Dominique Mondelet, a native of France, who came to Canada under the French Government as Assistant Army Surgeon. Mr. J. M. Mondelet was a prominent personage in politics, and represented Montreal East, in Parliament, during several sessions. He was a Notary by Profession, and was much respected in the City.

which it passed, enclosing part of the present Victoria Square, thence along Fortification Lane, across the Champ de Mars, onward through St. Louis Street, to Dalhousie Square, and then returning to the barrack corner.

When the work of demolition was completed, the Commissioners proceeded to lay out a square, and wider street on the western terminus of the city ; and, readily agreeing, decided to perpetuate the memory of their labours by conferring their name on the square, (the present Victoria Square), which was accordingly named "Commissioners Square," and continued to be known as such until a few days before the Prince of Wales' arrival, when one of the Councillors very cleverly proposed to alter its name to Victoria Square, *in commemoration* of said visit. The Fortification Removal Commissioners readily came to an agreement respecting the name of their square, but seem to have had a little "tiff," over the name of the new street. Before they widened it, it was called St. Augustin Street. Mr McGill called it McGill Street, and entered it as such on the deed of homologation. Mr. Richardson contended, on the contrary, that it should be called after him, and did likewise on the deed. Mr. Mondelet also put in his claim, arguing with equal justice, that it should be known as Mondelet Street, and in his turn also entered it as such. It is hard to tell who decided the question between these three contestants, but the deed shows that Mr. Richardson's and Mr. Mondelet's names were erased, and Mr. McGill's allowed to remain.

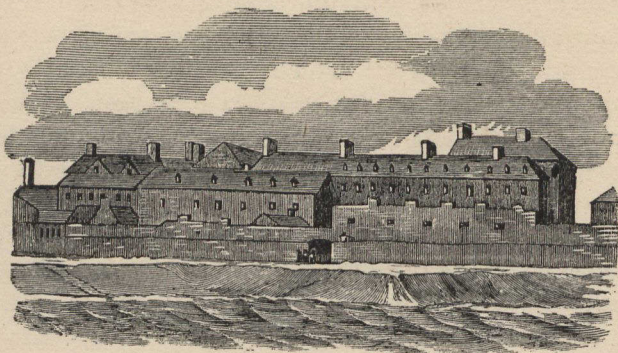
By order of the Commissioners the old Citadel Hill was razed, and when, in 1821, the site was presented to the City by the Governor General, the Earl of Dalhousie, \*the Square

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\* George, ninth Earl of Dalhousie, was born in 1770, and succeeded to the title on the death of his father in November, 1787. He entered the army the same year as a Cornet in the 3rd Dragoon Guards, and during his military career rendered the most valuable service. In 1816, he was appointed Lieut.-General Commanding in Nova Scotia, and on the death of the Duke of Richmond, succeeded him as Governor of British North America, which high office he retained until 1828. He died at Dalhousie Castle, Scotland, on the 21st March, 1838.

then opened, was in honor of the liberal donor, designated "Dalhousie Square," by which name it is still known.

It is difficult to say if any portion of the old French wall is still above ground. The water front of the Quebec Gate Barracks is supposed to be built upon a part of it, and is the only



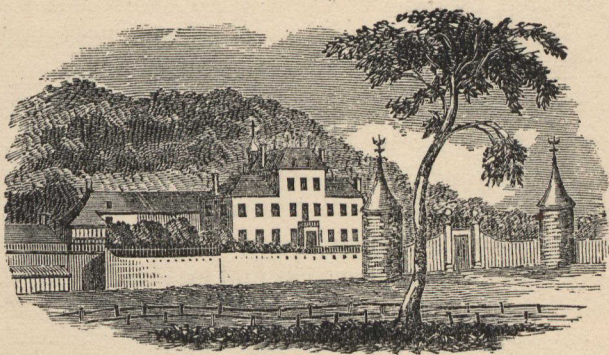
OLD BARRACKS.

portion left, being with the old Barrack on Water Street, the only vestige remaining of French military power in this city. The Government store houses of the *ancien regime* were in the same part of the town, east of the Bonsecours Church; and "owing to the venality of Varin, 'the Commissary of the Marine,' and Martel, 'the Storekeeper,' two gentlemen who displayed great talent in cheating the French Government out of its stores, and charging for them twice over, early received the name of *La Friponne*, a name which still adheres to the lane on which they abutted."

At the present time, there stand on the line of Sherbrooke Street, (west of Guy Street,) two remarkable looking stone towers, having at the first glance, an appearance not unlike the remains of old wind mills. These quaint looking circular towers, with their rough walls, contrast strangely with the more beautiful masonry of the massive walls of the immense structure in their rear, known as the Great Seminary. Yet we honor the "Gentlemen of the Seminary" for the feel-



ings which have prompted them to retain these old landmarks. For over a century and a half, have these towers withstood the assaults of time, and in their early history



OLD TOWERS AND COLLEGE.

they served to guard the entrance within the wall which surrounded the old "*Maison de Prêtres*," as the first building was called. Within these towers have gathered, some of the early Priests, and their Indian converts, looking anxiously towards the dark forest by which they were surrounded, expecting, yet dreading the appearance of the treacherous and savage foe. Here also, the gentle Madame Bourgeoys\* has sat, and taught the young Indian girls, and endeavored to impart to them some of that zeal which fired her own heart. How changed is the scene! Now, villa and mansion surround the spot, and there is nought of by gone days, save these two solitary towers, the last remaining relics of the "*Fort de la Montagne*."

Though strictly speaking, the old fort does not come within the compass of this work, still its connection with the early settlement is so intimate, that I feel justified in

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\* Marguerite Bourgeoys, the pious and benevolent Founder of the Convent of the Congregation of Notre Dame at Montreal, was born at Troyes, in France, on the 15th April, 1620, and was brought to Canada in September, 1653, by Maisonneuve, who had been visiting France. She died full of days and honors on the 12th of January, 1700, aged 80 years.

thus dwelling upon its past history, and present appearance.

I shall now close by stating, that some years ago, plans were prepared, by order of the British Government, for the erection of most extensive and formidable batteries, and other defences for the city. By those plans it was intended that the works should extend from about two miles below the city, on the opposite shore of the St. Lawrence, to the foot of the Lachine Rapids, taking a curvelinear form, with a radius of two miles from the river. These were to be surrounded with a wet ditch, and have five bomb-proof forts, each containing a small barracks and arsenal. A sixth fort of superior size was to be erected on St. Helen's Island. All these works were to be of stone, faced with earth. For this object, land was acquired, but it is more than probable that the stone pillars bearing the well known broad arrow and the letters B. O., which serve to mark the boundary of the purchased land, is all the stone work which will ever be erected thereon by the Government. Let us hope that the necessity may never arise for further expenditure, but that learning to "bear and forbear," we may live at peace with all, and cultivate only such feelings as shall forever remove any apprehension of difficulty, or dispute between Canada and its neighbors, or other nations.

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#### CARD MONEY AND FRENCH COINS IN CANADA, IN 1716.



THE following paragraphs are copied from Manuscripts now deposited in the Parliamentary Library, Ottawa :

" May 12, 1716.

" M. Begon has caused to be drawn (last year), bill of exchange for the extinction of the Cards (Cartes), to the amount of 61 thousand *livres*, out of 160 thousand payable

in the month of May, 1717. The merchants have not dared to take more, those of 1715 and 1716 not having been paid.

“A part of the letters of 1715 have been commanded to be paid, and it has been promised to complete them in the course of this year, for the protection of those drawn in 1715-16, and it is believed that people will now accept them willingly. The Council should order M. Begon to draw 99 thousand livres for bills of exchange, which remain out of the 160 payable in 1717, and in the same manner, for a like sum payable in 1718, and to continue until the total extinction of the Cartes, and then cause them to be burned up according to the first project.\*

“Done and decided by the Council of Marine, held in the Louvre, 12th May, 1716.

L. A. DE BOURBON,  
LE MARECHAL D'ESTREES.

“By the Council,  
LACHAPELLE.”

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“QUEBEC, 6 Sept., 1717.

“We have received the letter which the Council has done us the honor to write us, with the printed edict of the King, rendered in the month of November last, which orders the making of new Louis d'Or, at the Paris Mint. We have made it public, and we shall see that it is observed. None of that make has yet come to this country.

(Signed, VAUDREUIL,  
BEGON.”

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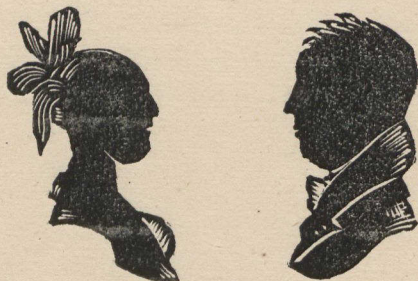
\* A facsimile of the Card Money was given on page 53, Volume I., of the *Canadian Antiquarian*. Cards smaller in size, and of less value, were also issued. In the valuable Canadian Collection belonging to Cyrille Tessier, Esq., of Quebec, there are two specimens of these smaller Cards.—Ed.

## CANADIAN FINE ARTS (?) IN 1808.



THE following is copied from a Montreal paper of 1808 :

## CORRECT PROFILES.



E. METCALF,

WOULD respectfully inform the Ladies and Gentlemen of Montreal and its environs, that he has taken a room on St. Nicolas Street, nearly opposite the Theatre, where by means of a new-invented Patent **PHYSIOGNOTRACE** he will cut the most Perfect **PROFILE LIKENESSES** on a fine woven hot-press paper, and dress them in a superior style according to the prevailing fashion of the day.


He will give two Likenesses of the same person for fifteen pence—Painted and Enameled in Gold on Glass in the neatest manner.

No pay will be required of any person who is not perfectly satisfied with their Likeness previous to leaving his room.—Specimens of the above may be seen at his room where constant attendance will be given from 8 in the morning 'till 9 in the evening except the hour of Dining.—Suitable frames of various prices for sale.

*Montreal, September 5th, 1808.*

MY EARLY EXPERIENCE OF NUMISMATICS  
IN CANADA.

BY SIR G. DUNCAN GIBB, BART.

N my youthful days, when Canada was emerging from the condition of a young and undeveloped Colony of Great Britain, to an Empire State, such as she has now become, nothing in the shape of coins could there be obtained unless what was presented by the general circulating medium. The lad with a taste for Numismatics had no means of gratifying it, such as existed in the mother country, beyond gathering curious and pretty pieces of copper and silver, of various nations, that presented themselves, in the ordinary commercial transactions of the place, usually in retail trade. When merely a child, I was in the habit of collecting curious copper tokens, and as the taste was considered a laudable one, likely to induce frugal habits, it was encouraged; it was aided by gifts or otherwise, until I had amassed a velvet bag tolerably full of what I then called curious coppers. It might have contained a hundred or two, when one day I was requested to bring my bag down stairs from its usual repository to show some friends. I must have been between 6 and 8 years of age, and I think this is correct, because my memory carries me back to occurrences of the age of 4. On going for the bag, to my extreme amazement, it was empty. Human nature gave way in a most bitter flood of tears, which my friends could hardly succeed in suppressing. Here were my little treasures, the collections of some time all dissipated as it were by magic. The culprit proved to be my brother, who had invested my cherished savings in bulls-eyes and other sugar plums. I must have lost courage by that misfortune, and my Numismatic ardour was considerably damped, as my diary tells me, that on the 28th November, 1835, my collection of copper coins numbered but 74 pieces.

However, from that date, when I had not yet attained the age of 14, I made up my mind to cultivate my tastes for Numismatics, which has never since flagged, although occasionally in abeyance, necessarily from the pressure of daily professional and other work. At the Rev. Dr. Black's school, and his successors Messrs. Howden and Taggart, an occasional traffic in copper tokens took place, and I remember well in the latter part of 1834, giving the sum of five pence to my school mate, Frederick Torrance (now one of Her Majesty's Judges of the Court of Queen's Bench), for a Bath Token of 1794, with the Entrance Gate of the Botanic Garden on the obverse, and the inscription "He spake of trees from the Cedar Tree that is in Lebanon." And on the reverse, a Cedar Tree near an old ruin, and the words, "Even unto the Hyssop that springeth out of the Wall. I. Kings, Chap. IV. ver. 33." The ruin was covered with hyssop and other plants. In the then state of my finances, I considered the sum paid a great one for a copper coin, but its novelty and beauty made amends for it. Of the multitude of things that rush upon the memory of those happy days, I cannot forget the loan of "The Romance of History," in many volumes, from the same kind hand, which were read with avidity. However, that coin is still in my possession, but beyond getting curious tokens at school, it was impossible to procure pieces of antiquity, about which one became familiar through books. Yet I succeeded in obtaining a Greek copper coin of Alexander the Great, in ordinary change from Mr. Peter Dunn, a Grocer; a large brass of Domitian, much worn; and another coin of Constantius Chlorus, also in ordinary change, but such occurrences were very rare. I remember purchasing for one dollar a silver denarius in perfect preservation of Marcus Aurelius, from J. Steiger, who kept a Tavern in the St. Lawrence Suburbs. Ancient coins, as a rule, however, were not to be had by purchase, they were mostly gifts. A silver

quinarius of Gratianus was given to me by my grandfather, James Ellice Campbell, who had a large number of coins which he had collected in various parts of the world, but they were mostly modern. He was occasionally liberal and added to my collection; a 24 skilling piece that he gave me of Frederick V. of Denmark, dated 1745, I valued highly because he picked it up in the Shetland Islands when wind-bound there on one occasion, about 1811 or '12. He told me these old Danish Coins were the chief currency of the Islands, as well as silver coins of Danish America; of the latter, many were obtained by me in Canada. As I kept notes of the gifts, purchases and exchanges, in my collection, I find I was largely indebted to numerous friends for the first, and through them possess many medals especially, engraved and otherwise, that cannot usually be purchased. I am a firm believer, that in the great majority of cases, tastes and peculiarities, no matter concerning what, are inherited, and not acquired. This is the opinion of a large portion of the intelligent part of mankind. Applying it to myself, on both sides of my parentage, my progenitors had fairly large and good collections, not only of coins, but other objects of art and vertu, which tastes have developed themselves in me to some slight extent. Paternally I believe I possess the various divisions that took place in 1826 of a family collection of coins and medals, chiefly through gift, but a large portion, consisting of fine copper tokens, was lost through the burning of a lot of houses in St. Radegonde Street, Montreal, nearly 40 years ago. The *London Times* once stated that ancient coins and medals, were becoming every day scarcer, through the destruction of a large number annually by fire; we have an instance of this in the loss of several cabinets of coins at the burning of the Pantehnicon here a few weeks ago.

Of coins obtained by me in boyhood, were a 4 pistarine piece, silver gilt, of Philip IV. of Spain, dated 1639; and a

24 livre piece in gold of the French Republic of 1793, with an angel standing, and the Gallic cock on the obverse : this was a perfect gem from my father's collection. When an infant, a proof silver crown piece of George IV., with St. George and the Dragon on the reverse, with a ring attached, was placed round my neck ; it was fortunately preserved until I was old enough to take charge of it myself. This was the work I believe of my respected uncle, Major George Gibb of Sorel, after whom I was called, and who is now full of years as he is of honors, for he was at the seige of Fort Meigs, on the Miami River, with General Proctor on April 23, 1813 ; and was the only unwounded officer in Captain Barclay's ship, in the disastrous naval battle on Lake Erie, on 10th September, 1813. This testimony is due to him from me, as he was a veteran Numismatist, and all his coins and medals are in my collection, together with many Canadian relics of an historical character. My first copper two-pence of George III., as well as some choice tokens, fresh from the English mints, were from him. Some exquisite half-crowns of George IV. were given to me by other friends, of 1825 and 26 ; besides Maundy money of the later English Sovereigns. And of the many Medals, chiefly English, some are considered scarce, even here. Of English, Scotch and Irish tokens, their number was considerable, a good many as perfect as the day they were struck, because they had been preserved by others who had brought them from England, before finding their way to me. Among the Irish were two varieties of the well known "voce populi" pieces. Up to May, 1847, when I paid my first visit to England, my collection numbered 1509 pieces, including 390 duplicates, all obtained in Canada.

Books on Coins were as scarce in Canada as the Coins themselves. An early companion of mine was a small quarto volume of the gold and silver coins of all nations by Jas. Ede, Goldsmith, published in London in 1808, and a



present to Jas. E. Campbell, when there in 1809, from his friend George Watt, Esq. It contained plates of 400 modern coins, and was very useful. Subsequently, I purchased in March, 1838, from John O. Brown, Pinkerton on Medals, 1789, with several plates, for the sum of 5s. 6d., which was of essential service, indeed I had it almost by heart. For a beginner it was a valuable guide, and contained a great deal of important information. A quarto book that proved a treasure to me was Mrs. Guthrie's tour to the Crimea in 1795 and 6, with many hundred woodcuts of early Greek coins. At this time I must have been making enquiries for books on coins, for I obtained in succession Reilly's "Voyage en Crimée," from John O. Brown in August, 1838, for 3s. 9d.; Truths of Revelation demonstrated by an appeal to existing Monuments, Coins, Medals, &c., in November, 1838, from W. Greig, Bookseller, for 8s. 9d.; and Walsh on Coins, Medals and Gems, in November, 1839; all of which were extremely serviceable. Still later in December 1842, Hawkins well known work on English Coins, published in 1841, was sold to me for 13s. 6d., and Addison's Dialogues on Ancient Medals, for 9d. Of the various works on Coins now in my possession, they were chiefly obtained subsequent to my settlement in London in 1853, and here must be passed over; but in my early life, it was my habit to copy out of any works that were lent me that I could not procure myself, all the engravings of useful coins and many medals, which had the effect of impressing them on the mind. Indeed, when looked at now, my astonishment is great at the patience and perseverance that must have then existed within me, to do this work, more especially as my affections were partly bestowed upon Conchology, Entomology, and some other of the branches of Natural History at the same time. And when I became a student of Medicine, to these was added Comparative Anatomy. Nevertheless, when opportunities occurred, additions were made to my collec-

tion of coins through friends, and now and then something interesting was picked up at the dealers in money exchanges. But as there were no regular dealers in Coins, in the strict sense of the word, as exist in London or New York, Greek, Roman or early English coins were not to be had in Canada. Now and then something was picked up at the Jewellers and Silversmiths, who had purchased old silver, and among this were some very good medals, and once in a while, a Greek or a Roman silver coin.

It was not uncommon to meet with English silver, extending to the first Charles, but rarely anything anterior to his time; half crowns of Charles II. were not scarce, and frequently sixpences and shillings were met with in ordinary change. Spanish, Portuguese and French silver were the common medium of exchange, associated with that of the United States and Mexico. All this I suppose is now changed, but it existed up to my departure in 1853. Copper of all countries found Canada the real land of circulating freedom, and so bad was some of this currency, that it induced the various local banks to issue copper money on their own account. Up to the time of my leaving, I had collected every available copper coin that was Canadian, and feel assured there must be several that are undescribed by any writer. I will instance one. Several hundred weight of copper tokens, that contained 9 ordinary playing cards spread out, both on the obverse and reverse, were struck in England, for a Montreal firm alone, who employed a large number of workmen. There was no name nor date on the coin, and therefore its nationality was unsuspected, nevertheless it is a true Canadian token. Through private influence, I had particular facilities for obtaining samples of all Canadian Bank Tokens as they were issued, and of several varieties sent forth by a single Bank, it sometimes happened that a few were merely samples, and their issue comparatively small, whilst others were circulated in abundance.

I might say much more upon this very interesting subject but the observations made, will show the youthful collector of coins in Canada of to-day, what his predecessors had to encounter in the Canada of yesterday. The sale of coins is now a regular means of business, and in London, at any rate, public sales frequently occur, where the taste for Greek, Roman or English Coins can be fully gratified at a reasonable outlay. Indeed, almost anything that has been coined, is to be had in the course of time, if the purchaser is willing to pay a good price for it. An instance of this occurred to me recently. The press, a few years ago, honored me with a flattering notice of a collection of Medals of Philosophers and Physicians that I exhibited at two *Conversazioni* at Leamington in Warwickshire, in association with a great medical gathering. It included a separate series of Tokens and Medals of Shakespeare which was pronounced unique. Since then I purchased at the sale of Sir George Chetwynd's unrivalled collection in 1872, all of his Shakespeare medals in splendid condition, most of which in silver and bronze I had not, and although a heavy price was paid for them, it has greatly added to the value of my Shakespeare series, which is in some respects Canadian, for all the tokens were obtained in Canada, including one made by John Gregory Hancock in 1800, when only 7 years old ; and there is besides the well known medal of McGill College in bronze.

With these observations, imperfect and incomplete as they are, I venture to bring this communication upon my early experience of Numismatics in Canada to a close, feeling assured that it will revive in the minds of some a recollection of their first efforts to form a collection of coins under difficulties.

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— The first census of the City of Montreal "*Ville Marie*" was taken in 1666. It gives the name, age, sex, and occupation of each inhabitant. A copy of this interesting document may be seen in the Library of Parliament, Ottawa.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIMCOE.

FIRST GOVERNOR OF UPPER CANADA.



LIEUTENANT-GENERAL John Graves Simcoe was born in the town of Cotterstock, Northamptonshire, England, in 1752, and was the eldest son of Captain John Simcoe, Commander of H. M. S. *Pembroke*, who was killed at Quebec, in the execution of his duty, in the year 1759, while assisting the ever glorious Wolfe in his siege of that city.

On young Simcoe first going to school at Exeter, at a comparatively early age, he attracted considerable notice from all with whom he came in contact for his proficiency in everything that the school taught; and he was undoubtedly the dux of the school. At the age of fourteen he was removed to Eton where he acquired new honors.

After remaining at Eton a short time, he was removed to Mereton College, Oxford. From college, in his nineteenth year, he entered the army, either he or his guardians having selected that glorious profession for him. He was appointed to an ensigncy in the 35th Regiment of the line; and as hostilities had already commenced with the United States of America, he was despatched to the seat of war, to join his regiment. He arrived at Boston on the day of the battle of Bunker Hill, and took an active part afterwards, as may be seen, in the great American war, when the American colonists threw of their allegiance to Great Britain, and declared themselves independent.

Ensign Simcoe, having served some time as Adjutant to his own regiment, purchased the command of a company in the 40th, with which he fought at the battle of Brandywine, and where he displayed (although very young,) his courage and professional attainments by the active part he took in the day's proceedings. Unfortunately he was severely wounded at this engagement.



*British American Bank Note Comp. Montreal*

*Lieut. Gen. Simcoel*

*First Governor of Upper Canada.*

Captain Simcoe, was always a soldier in his heart, and attentive to every part of his duty. He already saw that regularity in the interior economy of a soldier's life, contributed to his health, and he estimated the attention of the inferior officers, by the strength of a company, or a regiment in the field. His ambition invariably led him to aspire to command; and even, when the army first landed at Staten Island, he went to New York to request the command of the Queen's Rangers, (a provincial corps, then newly raised,) though he did not obtain his desire, till after the battle of Brandywine, in October, 1777.

The Queen's Rangers, under command of Simcoe, acquired new laurels, and were justly celebrated, as was their leader, for their several gallant deeds and exploits. During the rest of the American war, or until their disbandment, they bore part in nearly every engagement, which took place.

But unfortunately being situated at Gloucester Point, opposite York-town, when the latter place was besieged by the allied French and American army, the Rangers, as well as the other portion of the English Army, under Lord Cornwallis's command, were surrendered by that nobleman to the victorious insurgents.

With the surrender of Gloucester Point, the active existence of the Rangers terminated. The officers were afterwards put upon half pay, and their provincial rank retained to them in the standing British army. The war for independence virtually ceased, with the capture of York-Town, and Colonel Simcoe returned to England, greatly fatigued by his late arduous duties, and greatly impaired in his constitution.

The king received him in a manner which plainly showed how grateful his Majesty was for the great services he had rendered; and all classes of society received him with the most affectionate regard, and showed him every demonstration of their attachment.

Not long after his return, he entered into the marriage state with Miss Guillim, a near relation to Admiral Graves, a distinguished officer, engaged in the American war. He was elected to represent, in 1790, the borough of St. Maw's Cornwall, in the House of Commons, which place he continued to represent, with equal honor to himself and his country, until the passing of the bill dividing the Province of Quebec into two provinces, to be called Upper and Lower Canada, when he was selected as the first Governor of Upper Canada, whither he proceeded in 1791, with his wife and family. Upper Canada was then in a comparative state of wilderness.

We cannot picture to ourselves, a more dismal, or a more thoroughly dejected colony than was the Province at the time of which we speak. Governor Simcoe, however, entered upon his duty with a resolute heart. Newark, now Niagara, was made the seat of government, which consisted of a Legislative Assembly and Council, the former containing sixteen members only ; while the latter was still smaller, and a Parliament was convened so early as the 17th September of the same year. He also appointed an Executive Council, composed of gentlemen, who had accompanied him out, and some who already resided in the province. He had the whole country surveyed, and laid out into districts, and invited as much immigration as possible, in order to swell the population, For this purpose, those parties who so nobly adhered to the cause of England in the revolted colonies (now the United States), and which are chiefly known by the sobriquet of United Empire Loyalists, removed to Canada, and received a certain portion of land, free. Also discharged officers and soldiers of the line, received a certain portion of land gratuitously, and all possible means were employed to further the projects of the governor. A provincial corps was raised by command of the king, and Colonel Simcoe was appointed colonel of it. This corps, he called the "Queen's Rangers," after his old regiment.

In 1796, after remaining four years at Newark, the seat of government removed to York (now Toronto), which was, at that time, a miserable collection of shanties ; and this place, Governor Simcoe determined, should be the capital of the province. He accordingly, with that intention, improved the site and vicinity of the projected city to a great extent. Roads were constructed, so that a proper communication could be kept up between town and country. A schooner ran weekly, between Newark and York ; and couriers were sent overland, monthly, to Lower Canada. Of course, the population increased, and the young province began to consider itself wealthy. In 1794 Simcoe was promoted to the rank of major-general, and in 1796, he was appointed to be commandant and governor of the important island of St. Domingo. Thither Simcoe with his family proceeded, and there he held the local rank of lieutenant-general.

Though he remained only a few months, he greatly endeared himself by his kind and considerate government of the island, not only to all the residents, but to the natives themselves ; and a contemporary justly remarks, that " short as was his stay, he did more than any former general to conciliate the native inhabitants to the British government."

In 1798, he was created a lieutenant-general ; and in 1801, when an invasion of England was expected by the French, the command of the town of Plymouth was entrusted to him. We do not hear of him again until 1806, when the last scene in this great man's life was to come to a close.

France had long been suspected of a design to invade Portugal, and, the affair being apparent to England, public attention was called to the critical situation of that country ; and as Portugal was the only surviving ally of England upon the continent, means must necessarily be employed to assist her. In this critical juncture, Lieutenant-General Simcoe, and the Earl of Rosselyn, with a large staff, were immediately sent out to join the Earl of St. Vincent, who



with his fleet was in the Tagus ; and they were instructed to open, in concert with him, a communication with the court, so that they would ascertain whether danger was very imminent, and if so, employ means to guard against it.

But alas ; in such a glorious undertaking, which probably would have crowned him with fame and honors, Simcoe was never destined to participate to any extent. On the voyage thither, he was taken suddenly ill, and had to return to England, where he had only landed, when his eventful life was brought to a close. He breathed his last at Torbay, in Devonshire, at the comparatively early age of fifty-four, after having honorably served his country during many years in a variety of occupations, regretted by all, from the simple soldier, whom he had commanded, to the friend of his heart, and his boon companion.



#### BI-CENTENARY CELEBRATION AT QUEBEC.



RE this number of the *Antiquarian* shall reach the subscribers, an event of no small importance to the Roman Catholic population of this Province, will be celebrated in the City of Quebec. On the 1st October, from all parts of Canada, as well also from portions of the United States, thousands will gather in the "Ancient Capital," to celebrate with all possible magnificence the 200th Anniversary of the erection of the Diocese of Quebec. What memories are recalled by a glance over those two centuries of progress ! Our space will not however permit of any lengthy review of the events connected with Ecclesiastical History, but we feel justified in recording a few facts relating thereto.

It was on the 25th May, 1615, that three Ecclesiastics, the first to announce the Gospel on the shores of the St. Lawrence, landed at Tadousac ; and a few days later reached Quebec.

The vessel that had borne them across the Atlantic was the *St. Etienne*, sailing from Harfleur on the previous 24th April; and commanded by Sieur de Pontgravé.

The names of those three first missionaries are Denis Jamay, Jean Dolbeau and Joseph Le Caron. They belonged to the religious order of Recollets, and had brought with them a friar of their community, Brother Pacifique Duplessis.

The Recollets had barely arrived at Québec ere they set about building a chapel. The care of that undertaking was entrusted to Father Dolbeau; who in a very few weeks enjoyed the happiness of celebrating the first mass in the small chapel of the Lower Town. A humble chapel of roughly hewn timber, and yet the mother of those countless Roman Catholic chapels, churches, and gorgeous cathedrals, to-day dotting the whole extent of this vast North American Continent.

That little Chapel of Lower Town is also the mother "*Fons et Origo*" of the venerable Cathedral of Québec, which Pius IX. has just raised to the dignity of a *Basilica Minor*—thus conferring on it a distinction that gives it a primacy over all cathedrals of the two Americas, she being the only *Basilica* on the Continent of America.

Shortly after their arrival, the three Recollet Fathers decided to divide the immense field open before them, and it was agreed that Father Denis Jamay should reside at Québec, and from thence minister unto Three Rivers; that Father Dolbeau should proceed to Tadousac, thence to instruct the Montagnais, as far as the Gulf of St. Lawrence, while to Father Le Caron was assigned the Country of the Hurons, into which the French had not yet penetrated.

The Recollets had spent nearly eleven years in New France, when they applied to the Jesuits in France, and requested them to share the labors and dangers of their mission field, and, in 1625, Fathers Charles Lalemant, Ennemond Massé and Jean de Brebœuf arrived at Québec.

Not a few of those early missionaries had to endure the torture of martyrdom ; and although the martyrdom of Fathers Brebœuf and Lalament is, it may be said, legendary in Canada, one ever peruses with renewed interest the history of their sufferings.

Of the monuments left to New France by the disciples of St. Ignatius, the first place is held by the Jesuits' College, converted into barracks, after the cession of Canada to England. That venerable relic is falling into ruins, and will doubtless soon be demolished. The foundations were laid in 1665.

In the interval between 1608, date of the foundation of Quebec, and 1659, that of the arrival in Canada of Monseigneur de Laval, several religious establishments were founded in New France. The first institutions of that nature that arose, were the Hotel Dieu and the Ursulines of Quebec, created in 1639.

The Hospitaller Nuns temporarily occupied a house situate on the site of the present Anglican Cathedral. The Ursulines occupied a building on the site now filled by Blanchard's Hotel.

The year 1641 witnessed the birth of Montreal, founded by Monsieur de Maisonneuve, who brought with him several families from France. He was accompanied by a young lady of rank, Mademoiselle Manse, who was entrusted with the care of the persons of her own sex. The season being advanced, they stayed over winter at Quebec, and in the spring M. de Maisonneuve proceeded with his party to Montreal. M. de Montmagny and the Superior of the Jesuits accompanied him there, and proclaimed him Governor of Montreal, on the 5th October. In the spring of 1642, the little colony disembarked upon the Island, on the 17th of May, at the place since named Pointe Calières. Mass was celebrated by the Superior of the Jesuits ; and the entire Island was placed under the protection of the Blessed Virgin.

As early as 1653, Marguerite Bourgeoys founded the Convent of the Congregation de Notre Dame. The Hotel Dieu of Montreal dates from 1657. A few years later, four Sulpicians arrived in Montreal, and the Seminary of St. Sulpicius was founded in the year 1677.

In 1657, M. Laval was appointed head of the Church in New France, under the title of Apostolic Vicar, with Episcopal Rank as Bishop of *Petræa*.



MGR. DE LAVAL.

Francois Xavier de Laval de Montmorenci, was born at Laval, in France, on the 30th April, 1623, and was consecrated Bishop of *Petræa in partibus*, at the age of 36 years. He landed at Quebec in 1659 (June 6th).

From 1659 to 1674, Mgr. de Laval directed the missions of New France, which then embraced the entirety, almost, of North America, under the title of Bishop of *Petræa*. On the 1st October, 1674, the Diocese of Quebec was erected, and Mgr. de Laval assumed the title of Bishop of Quebec.

When he visited France in 1662, he secured authority to found the Quebec Seminary, and in 1663, he finally carried this object into effect. In 1682, the Seminary, by Royal

Charter, assumed the name of its pious founder, and became known as the Laval University. Laval served in Canada, not only as head of the Church, but also as a member of the Supreme Council, named by the King of France, when in 1663, Canada was constituted a "Royal Government." While fulfilling the responsible duties devolving upon him, it appears he frequently found himself at variance with the Governor, and to such an extent did these dissensions occur, that finally they resulted in an open rupture. An appeal having been made to the King, the Governor, M. de Mesy, was superceded by DeCourcelle. Bishop Laval was an ardent advocate of the cause of Temperance, and to his stirring opposition to the supply of liquor to Indians, was due much of the opposition met with from the Governor.

He continued to discharge the duties of his office until the year 1688, when he retired, and was succeeded by M. de St. Vallier. After his resignation, Laval continued to reside at Quebec, where he died on the 6th May, 1708, aged 86 years.

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## STADACONA DEPICTA.

BY THE OLDEST INHABITANT.



**B**E it so, my young friend : a quiet ramble we shall have, outside the old city gates. Lend an attentive ear to the twice-told tales of a garrulous old fellow ! Since I left the green woods of Woodfield, in 1847, for my cottage home, at Fairywood, gigantic strides have been taken towards unveiling the early history of our common country. Under the magic pen of Garneau, Ferland, Holmes, Faribault and others, the annals of this portion of Canada have started forth with radiant majesty ; the country is known far and wide. If I cannot add much, to its general annals, I may perchance, contribute a few tiles to the mosaic of the local history of my native town.

Let us examine the surroundings of that strange "Old

Curiosity Shop," so quaintly sketched by Henry Ward Beecher.

We will first tread over the classic ground to the west of the city, from St. Louis gate to Cap Rouge. One of the earliest incidents, I can remember, was a ball given about 1793, by Mr. Lymburner, (Adam, I think, was his name), at his mansion in *Sault au Matelot* and St. Peter Streets, when the Duke of Kent, our Queen's father attended. This popular sprig of royalty, was then known to our French Canadian fellow citizens as "Le Prince Edouard." I think I see his burly form reviewing the troops in the *Place d'Armes*, in front of the *Old Chateau*. The incident clings to my memory, from the fact that the soldier who beat the big drum in the band was a negro. Adam Lymburner, His Grace's entertainer, was a man of note and ability; he was selected, and deputed to England in 1791, to make representations to the Home Government, on Provincial matters. You can read his able discourse in the *Canadian Review*, published at Montreal in 1826. Lymburner's house was subsequently the property of Hon. Mathew Bell; it now contains, amongst others the notarial study of I. G. Clapham, Esquire, N.P. This locality has also become historical ground: here Benedict Arnold and his men, were defeated by Governor Guy Carleton's intrepid followers, on the 31st December, 1775: here Major Nairn and Dambourges, won imperishable fame by the pluck they showed in repelling the invaders of their country, whilst the traitor Arnold, wounded in the knee, was carried to the General Hospital. No doubt, loyal old Lymburner, exhibited to Royal Edward, from the drawing room windows, the spot adjoining, in rear of W. D. Campbell's notarial office, where eighteen years previous, King George's Canadian lieges, by their bravery, added new lustre to the British Arms. By the by, we have come through the *Porte St. Louis* without saluting, as we glided past, the modest, very modest little house (now a pastry

cook's shop, formerly the cooperage of Gobert, (No. 38 St. Louis Street,) where, a brave but unlucky Commander, was lying stiff and cold, one New Years' day last century. Alas! poor Richard Montgomery,—Wolfe's companion in arms, in 1759, had promotion gone on smoothly and justly in your old *corps*, the 17th Foot, you would not have sold out, and levied war against Britain, your country, and when my friend, Deputy Commissary General Thompson, hands me your trusty old rapier, and I think on what nature had made you, I feel as if I could weep, on viewing your untimely end at Près de Ville, on the 31st December, 1775.

Within a stone's throw from Gobert's, where Montgomery was "waked," is the late Chief Justice Jonathan Sewell's\* Mansion, facing the Esplanade.

On emerging from St. Louis gate, the first object which attracts the eye, is the straggling form of the Skating Rink, —opposite, stands or rather *leans* on stays, a structure still more unsightly,—the Racket Court, much frequented by Lord Monck, when in Quebec. Adjoining, you notice, the old home of the Prentices, in 1791,—Bandon Lodge,—did the beautiful Miss Prentice, about whom Horatio, Lord Nelson, raved in 1786, when, as Commander of the *Albemarle*, sloop of war, he was skylarking in Quebec, live here is more than I can say. Close by, looms out the long, tea caddy looking building, built by the Sanfield McDonald Government in 1862,—the Volunteer Drill Shed. It has length, if not beauty, to recommend it. Fergusson's house, next to it, noted by Professor Silliman in his "Tour from Hartford to Quebec in 1819," is now difficult to recognize; its present owner, A. Joseph, Esq., has added so much, in the way of ornament. Another land-mark of the past deserves notice—the Commander of the Forces' lofty Quarters,—from its angular eaves and forlorn aspect, it generally goes by the name of "Bleak House." I cannot say whe-

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\* It now contains the Executive Council Room, and Lieut.-Governor's town Office.

ther it ever was haunted, but it ought to have been. We are now in the *Grande Allée*—the forest avenue, which two hundred years ago led to Sillery Wood. On turning and looking back as you approach this singular house, you have an excellent view of the Citadel, and of the old French works, which extend beyond it, to the extremity of the Cape. Overlooking *L'Anse des Nièves*, a little beyond the Commandant's house, at the top of what is generally known as Perrault's Hill, stands the Perrault homestead, dating back as early as 1820,—*L'asyle Champetre*, leasehold property of the Ursuline Nuns,—now handsomely decorated and owned by Henry Dinning, Esq. The adjoining range of heights, now occupied by the Martello Towers, is known as the *Battes-à-Neveu*. "It was here that Murray took his stand on the morning of April 28th, 1760, to resist the advance of Levis, and here commenced the hardest fought—the most bloody action of the war, which terminated in the defeat of Murray, and his retreat within the City. The Martello towers are bombproof, they are four in number, and form a chain extending along the ridge from the St. Lawrence to the River St. Charles. The fact that this ridge commanded the City, unfortunately induced Murray to leave it, and attempt to fortify the heights in which he was only partially successful owing to the frost being still in the ground.

The British Government were made aware of the fact, and seeing that from the improved artillery, the City was now fully commanded from these heights which are about seven hundred yards distant, decided to build the Towers. Arrangements were accordingly made by Col. Brock, then commanding the troops in Canada. In 1806 the necessary materials were collected, and in the following year their construction commenced. They were not however completed till 1812. The original estimate for the four was £8,000, but before completion, the Imperial Government had expended nearly £12,000. They are not all of the same size,



but like all Martello Towers, they are circular and bomb-proof. The exposed sides are *thirteen* feet thick and gradually diminish like the horns of the crescent moon, to *seven* feet in the centre of the side next the City walls. The first or lower story contains, tanks, storerooms and magazine: the second has cells for the garrison, with port-holes for two guns. On the top there used to be one 68 pounder carronade, two 24, and two 9 pounders."

A party of Arnold's soldiers ascended this platform in November, 1775, and advanced quite close to the City walls, shaking their fists at the little garrison, who, by a few shots, soon dispersed the invaders, who retraced their steps to Wolfe's Cove. On the *Battes-à-Neveu*, the great criminals were formerly executed. Here LaCorriveau, the St. Vallier Lafarge, met her deserved fate in 1763, after being tried by one of Governor Murray's Court Martials. After death, she was hung in chains, or rather in a solid iron cage, at the fork of four roads, at Levi, close to the spot where the Temperance monument has since been built. The loathsome form of the murderess caused more than one shudder amongst the peaceable peasantry of Levi, until some brave young men, one dark night, cut down the horrid cage, and hid it deep under ground, next to the cemetery at Levi, where close to a century afterwards, it was dug up and sold to Barnum's agent for his Museum.

Look down the hill, to the south. There stands, with a few shrubs and trees in the foreground, Dr. Blatherwick's pet foundation, the Military Home,—where old soldiers, their widow's and children, could find a refuge,—it has recently been converted into the "Female Orphan Asylum." It forms the eastern boundary of a large expanse of verdure and trees, reaching the summit of the cape, originally intended by the Seminary of Quebec, for a Botanical Garden.

Its western boundary is a road leading to the new District

Jail,—a stone structure of great strength, surmounted with a diminutive tower, admirably adapted for astronomical pursuits. From its glistening cupola, Commander Ashe's Provincial Observatory is visible to the east. A lofty red fence, surrounding the western portion of this Tolbooth, may be seen from the St. Louis Road. It invests the abode of crime with a sanguinary aspect. During the middle ages, when great criminals were frequently flayed alive, this blood red circumvallation might have been mistaken for the bleeding hides of murderers, heretics, sorcerers and witches. It has ever, in my mind, been associated with a warning to erring humanity. Beware of the red\* Fence!

I was forgetting to notice that substantial building, dating from 1855—the Ladies Home. The Protestant Ladies of Quebec, have here, at no small expense and trouble, raised a fitting monument, where the aged and infirm may find shelter, food and raiment. This, and the building opposite, St. Bridget's Asylum, with its fringe of trees and green plots, are decided ornaments to the *Grande Allée*.

The Cholera burying ground of 1834, with all its ghastly memories of the Asiatic scourge, through the taste and liberality of our Irish brethren, has assumed quite an ornate, a respectable aspect. At the angle of DeSalaberry Street, on the *Grande Allée*, may yet be seen one of the stones which serve to mark the western boundary of the city, opposite the old Lampson Mansion. Here we are at those immortal Plains—the Hastings and Runnymede of the two races once arrayed in battle against each other.

Let us allow W. D. Howell, the brilliant writer of "Our Wedding Journey," to sum up the ground we have just gone over :

"The fashionable suburban cottages and places of Quebec, are on the St. Louis Road, leading northward to the old battle ground, and beyond it ; but these face chiefly to-

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\* Since these lines were written, the red has disappeared under a coat of whiteish paint.

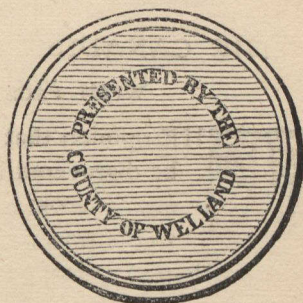
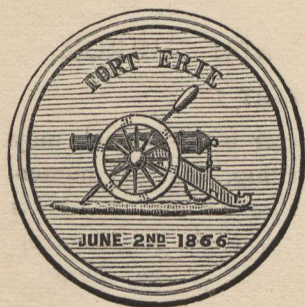
wards the Rivers St. Lawrence and St. Charles, and lofty hedges and shrubbery hide them in an English seclusion from the highway ; so that the visitor may uninterruptedly meditate whatever emotion he will for the scene of Wolfe's death, as he rides along. His loftiest emotion will want the noble height of that heroic soul, who must always stand forth in history a figure of beautiful and singular distinction, admirable alike for the sensibility and daring, the poetic pensiveness, and the martial ardor that mingled in him, and taxed his feeble frame with tasks greater than it could bear. The whole story of the capture of Quebec is full of romantic splendor and pathos. Her fall was a triumph for all the English-speaking race, and to us Americans, long scourged by the cruel Indian wars plotted within her walls, or sustained by her strength, such a blessing as was hailed with ringing bells and blazing bonfires throughout the Colonies ; yet now we cannot think without pity of the hopes extinguished and the labors brought to nought in her overthrow. That strange colony of priests and soldiers, of martyrs and heroes, of which she was the capital, willing to perish for an allegiance to which the mother country was indifferent, and fighting against the armies with which England was prepared to outnumber the whole Canadian population, is a magnificent spectacle ; and Montcalm laying down his life to lose Quebec, is not less affecting than Wolfe dying to earn her. The heart opens towards the soldier who recited, on the eve of his costly victory, the " 'Elegy in a Country Churchyard,' which he would rather have written than beat the French to-morrow ;" but it aches for the defeated general, who, hurt to death, answered when told how brief his time was, "So much the better ; then I shall not live to see the surrender of Quebec."

In the City for which they perished, their fame has never been divided. The English have shown themselves very generous victors ; perhaps nothing could be alleged against them, but that they were victors.

## THE "FORT ERIE" MEDAL.



THE circumstances which led to the issue of this medal, are of such a nature as to render it difficult to express in words the indignation which must be felt by every Canadian, when he recalls the scenes of 1866. It is hard to realize that from a land with which we were at peace, there should be permitted to march such hordes of lawless ruffians as during that year invaded our country. Without noticing the circumstances which gave rise to the political organization, known as the "Fenian Brotherhood," or to the encouragement given them by the citizens of the United States, we may simply state that, unheeded, or, at least, unrestrained, they were permitted to arm, drill, and march, as an invading force, across our borders, and for a (very) brief season spread confusion among the peaceful farmers on the borders, and, unhappily, shed the



blood of a few of our noble young men who had gone forth to repel them. With unprincipled leaders, and demoralized men, it was but natural that the miserable attempt to free Ireland by sacking Canada, should fail, and that they found the whole country a unit in its defence. The principal scene of action in this, the "first invasion," was in the western part of our land; and the most disastrous to the lives of our volunteers, was the engagement at Ridgeway. The brave men who took part that day in their country's defence, will always

receive honor for their services. But while the government, the press, and the people freely attested to their heroism, there were some who looked to still further honors. The authorities of the County of Welland ordered dies for a medal, which were however but little used, owing to unwillingness on the part of the government, to allow the wearing of such decorations unless emanating from the authorities usually charged with the distribution of such honors. It was naturally feared that the indiscriminate bestowal of medals would lessen the value now attached to them, by British soldiers. The medal of which a facsimile is given is exceedingly plain, and but poorly executed; nevertheless, from the fact that (so far as we can learn) but a few specimens were struck, it will always be scarce. On the obverse is a cannon, and the inscription, "Fort Erie, June 2nd, 1866." The reverse in a circle: "Presented by the County of Welland."

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## THE CANADIAN AUTOGRAPH MIRROR.

WITH FACSIMILES.—PART I.



THE opinion that the character of individuals may be discovered by their writing, has had numerous advocates; and D'Israeli in one of his works says: "The vital principle must be true, that the hand-writing bears an analogy to the character of the writer, as all voluntary actions are characteristic of the individual." This mode of judging the character of persons, can, however, only have any reality when the pen, acting without constraint, may become an instrument, guided by, and indicative of the natural dispositions. Whether nature would prompt every individual to have a distinct sort of writing, as she has given a different countenance, voice, and manner, is not for to pretend to determine, though many persons seem to have that opinion. Leaving these speculations, which are at least but fanciful, there is a

*Cartier*  
JACQUES CARTIER.

*La Hocque*  
DE ROBERVAL

*P. G. X. de Charlevoix*  
CHARLEVOIX.

*Perrot D'Iberville*  
PERROT D'IBERVILLE

*Montcalm - Jacques marquette*  
MONTCALM. MARQUETE.

CANADIAN AUTOGRAPH MIRROR-PLATE I.

natural curiosity inherent in most minds, to see the handwriting of individuals who have been distinguished by their rank, talents, virtues or fortunes. Knowing the truth of this statement, and feeling assured that a series of short papers upon Canadian Autographs will prove of interest, the pleasant duty has been undertaken; but at the outset, it must be stated, that the principal object had in view, being that of presenting fac-similes of the Autographs, the notices which accompany them, will therefore be very brief, but I trust, instructive and pleasing. In preparing an article on this subject, the name naturally presented, as fitted to take the first rank is that of

JACQUES CARTIER,

the discoverer of Canada, born at St. Malo, in France, in 1500. In 1534 he made his first voyage westward, reaching Newfoundland on the 10th of May, and extending his journey to the coast of Gaspé, which he reached on the 24th of the same month. He then returned to France, and in 1535 made a second voyage, reaching the St. Lawrence (so called from his having entered it on the Festival of that Saint) in August. Passing onward, he visited Stadacona (now Quebec), and Hochelaga (now Montreal.) He then sailed for France, taking with him from Stadacona the Indian Chief Donnacona. In 1541, as second in command to Roberval, he again visited Canada. He died shortly after his return from this voyage.

ROBERVAL.

Jean François de la Roque, Sieur de Roberval, a native of Picardy, France, was appointed Viceroy of Canada in 1540, and sailed thence, from Rochelle, in 1542. He met Cartier (returning to France) at St. Johns, Newfoundland, in June. Having wintered at Cape Rouge, above Quebec, he in June 1543, explored the river Saguenay. In making another voyage to Canada, in 1549, he, with his brave brother Achille and their fleet, were lost.

## CHARLEVOIX.

Peter Francois Xavier Charlevoix, a celebrated traveller and author, was a member of the Order of Jesuits, and was born at St. Quintin in 1684. He was for several years a missionary in America, and particularly in Canada. After his return to France, he published a number of valuable Historical works, the most important being a "History and General Description of Japan," "History of Paraguay," and "The Island of St. Dominique." The work which renders his name so familiar in Canada, is entitled "Histoire Générale de la Nouvelle France." This work is one of great value, describing as it does so fully, his own experience, and the manners and customs of the American Indians. He died in 1761, greatly esteemed for his high character and extensive learning.

## NICHOLAS PERROT,

a French traveller, was sent by M. Talon (Intendant of Canada), in 1670, to induce the north-western Indians to acknowledge the sovereignty of France. He left a most interesting manuscript on the customs of the Indians. An island situated at the western junction of the Ottawa and St. Lawrence, is called after him.

## D'IBERVILLE.

Pierre le Moynes d'Iberville, was born at Montreal, and was one of the best naval officers of France, under Louis XIV. He was successful in several encounters with the English in Hudson Bay, and in Newfoundland; in 1699, he laid the foundation of a colony in Biloxi, near New Orleans; and having discovered the entrance to the Mississippi, which La Salle had missed, he sailed up that river to a considerable distance, he is considered as the founder of the colony of Louisiana. He died in 1706. The county of Iberville, in Lower Canada, is named after him. His brother, Le Moynes de Bienville, was governor of Louisiana, and founded the city of New Orleans.



## MONTCALM.


Louis Joseph de Montcalm (Marquis of St. Veran), a distinguished French general, was born at Condiac, in France, in 1712. He distinguished himself at the battle of Peacenza ; and, in 1756, was made a Field Marshal. Having succeeded General Dieskau in Canada, he took Oswego from the English, in that year, and Fort William Henry (Lake George), in 1757 ; but was defeated by General Wolfe, on the Plains of Abraham, 13th September, 1759. In the battle he received a mortal wound, and died on the morning of the 14th, greatly regretted, aged 47.

## MARQUETTE.

Père James Marquette, a Jesuit missionary, was born at Picardy, in France. While a missionary at Lapoint, on Lake Superior, he expressed a desire to preach the Gospel to the southern Indians, and was chosen by Joliette to accompany him on an expedition to the Mississippi. He remained in the north-west, with the Illinois Indians, and died soon after his return from the exploration, at the early age of 38 years. His narrative of the discovery was afterwards published.

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 LETTER FROM WM. PENN TO THE EMPEROR OF CANADA.

N "Smith's American Literary Curiosities," published in 1860, is the following curious and interesting letter. Smith states that the original, which is written in a very large, legible hand, on parchment, is framed and hung up in the Capitol at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

" To the Emperor of Canada :

" The Great God that made thee and mee and all the world, incline our hearts to love peace and justice, that wee may live friendly together, as becomes the workmanship

of the Great God. The King of England, who is a great Prince, hath for divers reasons granted to mee a great country in America, which, however, I am willing to enjoy upon friendly terms with thee. And this I will say: the people who come with mee are a plain, just, and honest people, that neither make war upon others, nor fear war from others, because they are just. I have set up a society of traders in my province to traffic with thee and thy people, for your commodities, that you may be furnished with that that is good, at a reasonable rate. And that society hath ordered their president to treat with thee about a future trade, and have joined with mee to send this messenger to thee with certain presents, to testify our willingness to correspond with thee. And what the Agent shall do in our name, we will agree unto. I hope thou wilt kindly receive him, and comply with his desires on our behalf, both with respect to land and trade. The Great God be with thee, Amen.



London, the 21st day of the 4th Month, called June, 1682."

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#### THE "DE LEVI" MEDAL.



**I**N Vol. I (page 144) of the *Antiquarian*, the question is asked, "Who is Francois Christopher de Levi" whose Bust and Arms appear on one of the Medals in the Canadian Series. In that Magnificent French Work, "*Tresor de Numismatique*," part 3, plate 6, fig. 6, is a representation of the De Levi Medal. In the description of the reverse, we have the following: "The arms of Fr. Chris. de Levis, Duc de Damville are placed upon the royal mantle of France, and surmounted by a ducal crown. The arms are quartered. The first and

fourth quarters being quarterly as follows : Or. 3 chevrons sable, the arms of de Levis ; 2nd, Or. 3 bands gules, the arms of Thoire Villars ; 3rd, Gules, 3 stars argent, the arms of d'Anduse ; 4th, Argent, a Lion gules, the arms of Layre. The second and third quarters are : Or. a cross gules with 6 *Alerions* azure, being the arms of Montmorency.

Fr. Chris. de Levis, Count de Brion, Duke de Damville, was fourth son of Amé de Levis, Duc de Ventadour, and of Marguerite de Montmorency, first *ecuyer* of Gaston of France, Duke of Orleans, who inherited the Barony of Damville from his uncle Henry II., Duke of Montmorency. The title for several years remained in abeyance, but in 1648, the Count de Brion, secured letters patent restoring it. In these letters it is stated, that the title is renewed as a recompense for services rendered to the King, by the Count de Brion, who had served the Duke de Montmorency in Languedoc, having taken part in all the engagements against the *religionnaires*, also in the sieges of St. Antonin, Montaubin, Montpellier, and La Rochelle, in all of which engagements he had shewn great bravery. The Count had also been charged with negotiating arrangements between the Count de Soissons and the Court, at the time when that Prince had retired to Sedan, a mission which he completed with success.

The Duke de Damville subsequently filled the important appointments of Governor of Limousin, Captain of Fontainebleau, and Vice Roy of America, (1655). He died at Paris in 1661, leaving no children by his wife, Anne le Comes de Jambville."

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#### MEDALS FOR INDIANS.



PARAGRAPH copied from the *Historical Magazine* for September, 1865, page 285, appeared in the April (1872) number of the *American Journal of Numismatics*. As it opens a question bearing upon Canadian Medals we here reprint it.

“ Sir Danvers Osborne, after he had been appointed Governor of New York, in 1753, brought out, among other presents for the Six Nations, thirty silver medals ; his Majesty's [George II.] picture on one side, and the Royal Arms on the other, with silver loop and ring, in shagreen cases, with a yard of the best broad scarlet watered ribbon, silver hooks and eyes. Though these medals seem to have all disappeared, possibly a stray one may be found in some collection.”

[Medals corresponding with the description given, have been seen in Canada. Doubtless these medals are the same as those referred to by Sir H. Nicholas in his valuable work on the History of Orders of Knighthood, &c. In the chapter on Medals of Honor, he says : “No other Medals have been conferred as marks of the Royal favor with the intention of being worn, since the accession of George II. (except for Naval and Military services) than those given by that monarch and his successors to the Chiefs of North American Indians, or to the heads of various nations, or Tribes in Africa, who had rendered some service to British subjects, or whom it was desirable to attach to this country.

These Medals which are silver, are of 3 sizes, the largest being 3 inches, the second 2 4-10 inches, and the third 1½ inches in diameter, and have on one side the laureated head of the Sovereign, inscribed with his name and titles, and on the reverse are the Royal Arms, within the garter, the Helmet, Crest and Motto, the badges of the Rose, Thistle and Shamrock, and the date of the year.” He also states that Medals for this purpose, bearing the effigy and Arms of Her present Majesty have lately (1842) been struck. Can any of our readers give us information about the medals bearing the bust of William IV. or Victoria ?—ED.]

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